

On Top Of The News

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Thursday, June 4, 2009



INSIDE TODAY

WORLD NEWS

AMERICAN STATES



In this photo released by Brazil's Defense Ministry, Brazilian military search for an Air France jet over the Atlantic Ocean, Wednesday, June 3, 2009. A 23-foot chunk of plane and a 12-mile-long oil slick were found early Wednesday, Brazilian air force spokesman Col. Jorge Amaral said. Rescuers have still found no signs of life.

See INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SPORTS NEWS

OVER AND OUT



U.S. player Serena Williams reacts after losing a point to Russia's Svetlana Kuznetsova during a quarterfinal match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Wednesday June 3, 2009.

See Sports Today

Producer of Rachel Ray show enjoys El Gaucho Restaurant



ORANJESTAD - Producer Paul Inbro of the Rachel Ray show wined and dined at Aruba's most famous restaurant El Gaucho. In the fall of 2006, Rachael launched the daily one-hour, nationally syndicated show

Rachael Ray, which scored the highest rated premiere for a syndicated talk show since the 2002 launch of Dr. Phil. It immediately secured its position among the top ranked daytime shows and was the #1 syndicated strip

launched in the 2006-07 season. The daytime talker was immediately embraced by critics across the country. Time magazine wrote, "You can't attract her kind of following by just being accessible. Ray, like Regis



Philbin, is gifted at being on television." Newsweek praised Rachael as being "the most down-to-earth TV star on the planet ..." People magazine named Rachael Ray one of the top 10 shows of 2006, and Forbes voted her #2 "Most Trusted Celebrity."

El Gaucho is located in an old townhouse at 80 Wilhelminastreet, it's the first Argentine restaurant to open it's doors in Aruba on February 17, 1977.

Gaucho Restaurant serves a variety of tempting dishes, featuring quality Argentine steaks, tender and juicy, charcoal-grilled to perfection, such as the famous Gaucho steak, 16 oz sirloin, Pincho Torro Caliente (the biggest shishkebab ever served) T-bone steak, vealchop and more. While many restaurants are currently serving Churrasco steak, we must say that our version is the original and still the very best.□





Aruba women defeated by U.S. Virgin Islands

U.S. Virgin Islands started with the right foot in Group A of the Norceca-C second round tournament of the Women's FIVB World Championship by defeating Aruba in straight

sets (25-19, 29-27, 25-11).

Sacha Gumbs and Janelle Sarauw each recorded 15 points for the winners while Danielle Selkridge added nine, including three blocks.

"It was our first game together in a competition," said winning captain Kelly O'Brien in the post-game press conference. "I consider we played solid volleyball and hope to improve in our next matches. The opponents were tough in the second set but we found the way to prevail."

"We had only two months of training and this is our first competition at this level, so I am very proud of the job the girls did," said Evelyne Wong, the coach of Aruba.

U.S. Virgin Islands debuted with a 3-1 victory over Aruba (27-25, 21-25, 25-20, 25-18) in the Norceca-C second round tournament of the FIVB Men's World Championship. The loss eliminated Aruba (0-2) from advancing to the semi final stage of the six-team competition.

The solid blocking was the key for the winners recording a total of 15 positives in that category against 7 from their rivals.

Gustavo Cintron led U.S. Virgin Islands with 18 points, including five blocks and two aces. Brandon Varlack added 4 blocks among his 16 tallies and Shimo Van Holten chipped in 10 points. Mitchel Daniel and Eargenell de Cuba each had 11 points for Aruba.

"I feel relieved and at the same time happy for this first victory," said Van Holten. "We still need to play more as a team and reduce the mistakes."

"My team gave its best," said Elmerlindo Robles of Aruba. "They were better than us. I am glad that our young players came here to see what it takes to play at the higher level." □

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Fodor's Travel Guide



The Associate Development Program at the Westin introduces first graduates



PALM BEACH -- The Westin Resort, Aruba believes that in these economical challenging times, the best investment is the investment in Human Resources.

The Westin Resort, Aruba provides its associates with the opportunity to participate in an Associate Development

Program, ADP. This program is aimed to assist hourly and supervisory associates in developing their operational knowledge and management

skills through training, project assignment, leadership exposure, online mentoring, training, and other activities. Associates have the opportunity to choose a position and for a period of six months they receive weekly training in their selected department. The program started on June, 2008, the following six associates finalized the program successfully:

Rosa Provence trained as Public Area Supervisor – Mentored by Vanessa Rasmussen,

Julio Restrepo trained as Pastry Chef – Mentored by Oswaldo Molina,

Anousca Roos trained as Food and Beverage supervisor – Mentored by Bas Olde Riekerink,

Aura Werleman trained as Accounting Coordinator – Mentored by Lidia Croes,

Carmela Carlet trained as Accounting Manager - Mentored by Paulien Provence,

Barbara Bird trained as Human Resources Manager – Mentored by Ruthline Tromp.

The graduation celebration took place on May 15, 2009 in the Buena Vista Room where the General Manager, Richard Roy, expressed his satisfaction with the results and handed out the diplomas to the ADP graduates. The Westin Resort, Aruba would like to congratulate these associates on their accomplishments and knows they will be successful in furthering their careers. The new group of ADP participants will start on July 01, 2009; the selected associates will be able to broaden their leadership skills and operational knowledge in order to evolve and grow within the hospitality industry. □



Food & Beverage Big Winners Amit Sen and Gerald Sarmiento

Aruba Marriott Celebrates Manager & Supervisor Q1



Ministry of Health

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Welcome to Aruba

To enjoy your vacation it is important to prevent becoming sick.

To keep you and everyone around you safe, practice the following good health habits

1. Avoid close contact

Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.

2. Cover your mouth and nose

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.

3. Clean your hands

Washing your hands often will protect you from germs.

4. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth

Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose or mouth.

5. Practice other good health habits

Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids and eat nutritious food.

6. Feeling sick?

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and most importantly, having the ability to lead the resort to a higher level as it relates to attentive, courteous and exceptional service.

The 1st Quarter 2009 Supervisor nominees included Nestor Ricuarte – Engineering; Enrique Quintero – Food & Beverage; Mark Trappenberg – Loss Prevention and Gerald Sarmiento from the MVCI Food & Beverage Team. The Supervisor of the 1st Quarter winner was Gerald Sarmiento for his outstanding efforts in leading his team.

The 1st Quarter 2009 Manager nominees included: Shuraima Henriquez – Activities MVCI, Maikel Koolman – Banquets; Fernando Thode – Loss Prevention; Altagracia Lampe – Human Resources. The Manager of the 1st Quarter winner was Amit Sen for his outstanding efforts handling all food & beverage outlets and being of great support to the Director of Food & Beverage during this period.

The winners of the Aruba Marriott bartending contest that were selected during the celebration at Pincho's were Ivan de Jesus, (La Vista @ Marriott Resort), Wilma Benjamin (Captain's Galley, Marriott Surf Club), Joshua Bello (Stellaris Casino) and Roberto de Cuba (Champions Sports Bar, (Marriott Ocean Club). They will be representing Marriott during the Spirit of the Caribbean Summer 2009 Bartender Contest which will take place on Friday May 22nd in Marriott's Grand Ballroom, starting at 8 PM, with live performances by NBO. Entrance to this event is 5 florins – all drinks are \$2 (beer and wine) or \$4 (mixed drinks). □



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Welcome to Aruba



REINA BEATRIX – AHATA, Association asked ECO the Aruba Hotel & Tourism Destination Management

Services of Aruba to welcome its arriving dignitaries, at Reina Beatrix International Airport.

The ECO DMS crew orchestrated a warm and efficient arrival for AHATA's guests all about to experience a Destination Review in collaboration with the Aruba Convention Bureau and other AHATA partners.

A Destination Review is a taste of paradise offered to important meeting planners from North America, allowing them to experience the island of Aruba first hand so they that could recommend it to future large and small groups wishing to conduct meetings,



trade fairs or conventions in the island.

ECO DMS is a full-service destination management company offering creativity, personal service and superior professional skills, all aimed at delivering memorable motivational experiences for clients.

ECO Destination Management Services of Aruba is a proud green company operation on Aruba for over 20 years. The company has just recently opened a branch on the island of Curacao.

Pictured here the airport arrival of the AHATA VIPs. □

Change in government 'not declaration of war'

BONAIRE--While State Secretary of Kingdom Relations Ank Bijleveld-Schouten announced an investigation into corruption on Aruba, she did not do so for Bonaire. "Inconceivable," the island's opposition leader Jopie Abraham (ADB) told the Dutch daily *Het Parool*.

The newspaper reported on the political crisis that arose after UPB's Anthony Nicolaas decided to continue as an independent Island Council. After ten years of supremacy, Christian Democratic UPB led by Ramonsito Booi lost its majority in the Island Council.

According to Abraham, who teamed up with Nicolaas to pass a motion of no-confidence against the UPB commissioners, the upcoming change in government must not be viewed as a declaration of war to the Netherlands. "There is no reason for panic."

He will therefore not comment at this time whether a referendum will be held on the agreements made by the outgoing UPB Executive Council for Bonaire to become a special overseas entity of the Netherlands. He wants to go through all

the documents systematically once again and then consult with the Netherlands.

The four UPB commissioners will not resign as called for in the no-confidence motion, so the procedure to have the Island Council remove and replace them will have to be followed. Within two weeks Abraham hopes to present a new Executive Council "with capable and honest people."

He thereby explicitly refers Booi, who has been the subject of rumours about corruption and self-enrichment for years. Recently a critical report of the Antillean Audit Chamber on the issuance of land leases accused the Executive Council of favouritism. A "black book" on corruption was drawn up by the "Foundation Good Governance" (that included several opposing politicians-ed) and presented to Bijleveld. She forwarded the document to the Antillean Public Prosecution. Abraham hopes that the Netherlands will now finally carry out an investigation on corruption in Bonaire. "We have strong indications that the Netherlands are very well aware of what's going

on, but have reasons to support Booi."

He does not understand why Bijleveld announces an investigation on corruption on Aruba and makes a fuss about corruption on St. Maarten, but does not consider Bonaire.

A change in government on Bonaire can have substantial consequences for the constitutional process whereby Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba become the BES islands. The Netherlands were negotiating mostly with Booi, Bonaire's main leader in the last ten years.

The opposition has always complained that the Island Council was being sidelined and that the population only received sparse information. Consequently, the support for the changes is limited and society is severely divided, said Abraham. His faction is against the current agreements with the Netherlands, while one action group zealously advocates a referendum and the clergy fear deterioration of morals because of locally controversial issues such as gay marriage and euthanasia that are accepted in the Netherlands. □

Wong (Aruba) and Hollander (Curacao), the champions of the doubles

Ninaber and Veerman win Aruba Station Tennis Challenge 2009



ORANJESTAD - The winners of Aruba Station Tennis Challenge 2009 have been announced. The 7th annual event took place in Tennis & Squash Center New Sloot in Alphen aan den Rijn on May 31, 2009. Students of Dutch, Aruban and Antillean

origin were there to help. The tournament lasted from 11:00 until 20:00. Both participants and visitors enjoyed the organization's typical Aruban / Antillian Johny Cakes.

In the women's finals Lieke Veerman (Ned) beat Maartje Veerman (Ned). The score

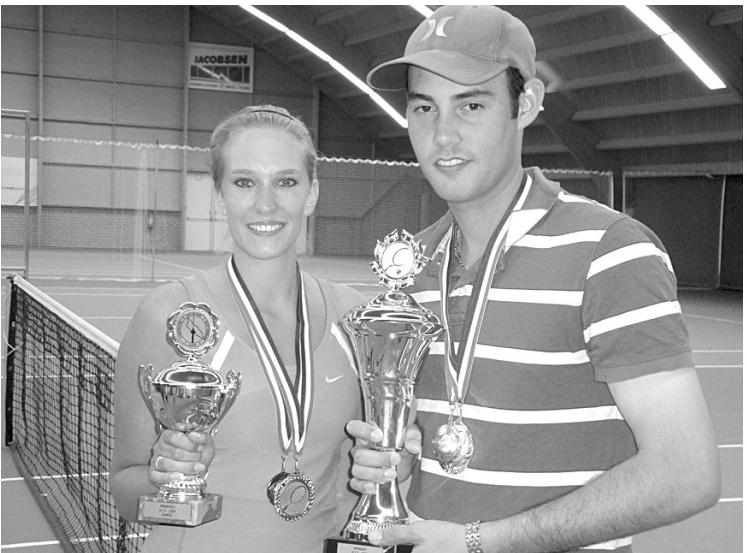
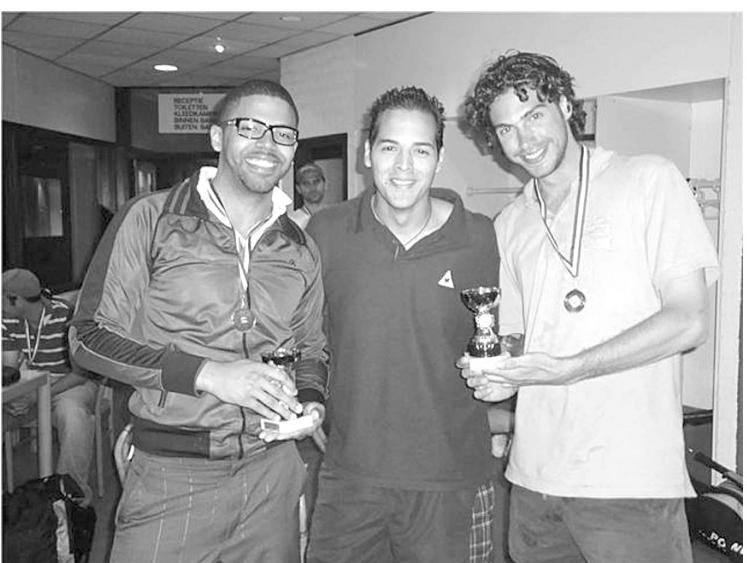
was 6-3/6-3.

The final was between Mr Maikel Ninaber (Aruba) and Henry Schut (Ned). With a final score of 6-0/6-1 Maikel allowed Ninaber the ATC2009 title. Bronze went to Paul Jones in the semi-finals Jason Noordstar was defeated with the score 7-5/4-6/3-6.

The doubles title went to the duo Gary Hollander / Kenrick Wong in the final double the duo of Anton Blijlevens District / Jermin Bell with 6-0/6-3 defeated.

At the end organizer Addonsito Croes thanked a number of people and agencies this year have supported the tournament: Dr. Mito Croes (CDA-11), Drs. Paul Croes (AVP), Mr. Frido Croes (Office of Aruba), Erin Croes (Aruba MagicFM), Dennis Geerman (Vision Magazine), Erna Diaz (CAR-Rotterdam) and Stephen Garcia (Infect). This tournament is one way for cultures to come together, sport. Tennis is a great sport that should be kept alive!

Maikel Ninaber (Aruba) is a student in Computer Science and Lieke Veerman Arnhem (Ned) studying Tourism in Leiden. A large PABIEN to our winners! □





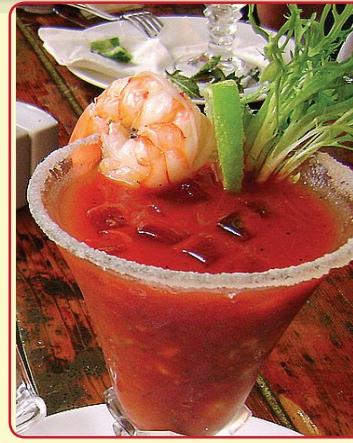
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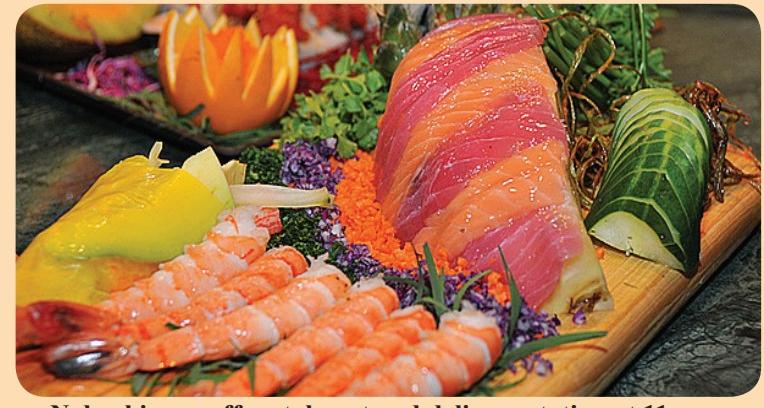


Tonight is LADIES' NIGHT at NOBUSHI

PASEO HERENCIA - Nobushi brings to Aruba the finest sushi. At Nobushi, every single piece gets the love and attention it needs from the professional Sushi chefs. Nobushi Sushi Bar & Asian Cuisine features a variety of sashimi, sushi rolls, chicken, fish and meat entrees that will enlighten your senses. Tonight, every lady gets a free Sushi.

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Nobushi now offers takeout and delivery starting at 11 am.
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Head downtown to Casa Tua Barcelona for Lunch & Dinner

ORANJESTAD - The downtown atmosphere is cool and relaxed with its in- and outside seating.

The highlight at Casa Tua Barcelona is new lunch specials every weekday from Monday till Friday! A \$9.95 lunch special; Beef tenderloin with a red wine sauce or choose the 3-course special for \$19.95. All nights we serve Cold and Hot tapas as appetizers or the delicious Iberian Ham Pata Negra which we import directly from Andalucia. As your main course you should choose our Paella, traditionally prepared on the spot by our chef! Combine this Spanish dish with our home-made sangria to complete your dinner.

The staff at this popular eatery has set the standard on the island for the term "great service" not only with your dinning pleasure, but recognized as 'the' professionals in assisting guests with the perfect cocktail, paired wine or other beverages.

Of course we saved the best for



last as no one does an ending better than Casa Tua with their dreamy Tiramisu. If you're into something different we suggest tasting the Espresso Martini Cocktail as dessert, you won't be disappointed.

The best part about such a good ending is that it guarantees you'll be back for more...



**Casa Tua Barcelona Downtown open from
11.30am to 10.30pm, Sunday from 5pm to 11pm
tel. 588 5695**

**Casa Tua Palm Beach open from 5pm to 11pm,
tel 586 8470**

Serena Leandi enjoys her first Holy Communion



PALM BEACH – Serena's Holy Communion party at the Divi Phoenix was an amazing success, taking off with delicious, traditional brunch, and culminating with crazy games, with master of ceremonies William. The beautiful Princess Serena, enjoyed a great time with family members and friends, who sent

compliments to the culinary and banquet teams of the Divi Phoenix for their great talent of organizing parties.

Pictured here the Leandis, dad Dante, Mom Myriam and brother Dylan, all uncles and aunts, and little cousins, members of the Aruba family, sharing a memorable afternoon. □

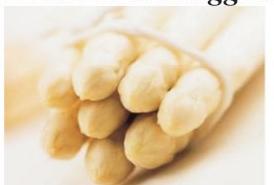


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EAGLE BEACH - Oasis Luxury Condominiums is a Mediterranean-style designed complex located on the prestigious Eagle Beach right next to Chalet Suisse consisting of a total of 35 units dis-

35 EXCLUSIVE OCEAN VIEW UNITS
STARTING IN THE LOW 400's

tributed on five (5) floors. The one, two and three bedroom suites have a perfect view of the ocean and beach. The units include, among other amenities, floor to ceiling glass doors and panoramic windows, spacious terraces, marble bathrooms, European kitchens

with granite counter tops and a full stainless steel appliance package including washer and dryer. This 35-condominium complex will feature a beautiful swimming pool with a beach style entry with waterfalls and fountain and state of the art fiber optic lighting. The entrance of the building has a drive-up covered entrance and an elegant two-story lobby leading to the sun-filled hallways and corridors. The common area will facilitate the owners with a well-equipped gym overlooking the gardens and the pool.

Construction on Oasis at Eagle



The garden will feel like an oasis true to the projects name. There will also be a recreation room and sofas throughout the common area to lounge and relax.

Further amenities include a 24/7 security, a full concierge and a rental program for the owners who want to earn a return on their investment. The concierge service will be helpful to assist the owners in making their 'homecoming' a very pleasant return. Each condo will have one designated parking space exclusive to the owners.

Beach is moving fast. Fifteen of the thirty five units have already been sold. The condominiums will be ready for occupancy by March 2010. Oasis is located on Eagle Beach which allows for an easy access, even on foot, to the best casinos, restaurants, golf courses, shopping areas and night life the Aruba has to offer.

The experienced sales team of Oasis invites you for a visit to learn about this new gem on the beach.

The site tour will take you up in the complex where you will enjoy spectacular views of the ocean and beach as well as a wonderfull view of Oranjestad where the cruise ships are docked. The views from the rooftop terrace are stunning to say the least. The Oasis sales team is ready to assist you.

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Graphic Designer Oscar Gonzalez returns to Aruba

ORANJESTAD - Graphic Designer Oscar Gonzalez returns to Aruba after a five-year absence with a special "sneak preview" art exposition celebrating his selection as a participant in the prestigious 2009 Ibero-American Art Fair of Venezuela (FIA).

In FIA, Gonzalez joins an exclusive group of twelve Venezuelan creators, representing a diversity of artistic expression. Each artist, chosen by Baruta's Directorate of Art and Culture on the basis of the caliber of his work, will have one month to create a metal structure in the form of a cube--representing the exhibit's theme of freedom--that will be displayed prominently in the lobby of the Hotel Tamanaco prior to the Art Fair.

Unamuno once said that culture alone has the power to make man free. However, for an artist, there is nothing more challenging than rendering from this freedom—one of society's principal values—an outward manifestation of the creative, while always maintaining a connection to that which is intimate and personal. As a prelude to the June 24 opening exhibition in Baruta, Oscar Gonzalez will debut his most recent artistic and creative

endeavors in a catered gallery opening on Aruba. Please join the designer on June 6, 2009 in this very intimate and personal endeavor as he celebrates at the crossroads of culture and artistic freedom.

Oscar Gonzalez has been a graphic designer for the past 17 years, as well as an advertising creative and art director. In addition, he spent over four years as a Graphic Design Professor at his Alma Mater, the Instituto de Diseño de Caracas, in Caracas, Venezuela, where he is currently based.

Born in Caracas, but absent from his birth city briefly at two points in time, Oscar first lived overseas as a middle school student from 1980 until 1984 in Evansville, Indiana, USA. From 1998 until 2003, he lived on the Caribbean Island of Aruba while working as a professional marketing & image director.

Oscar's professional career in visual arts began in the "pre-Photoshop" era, during which time he worked digitally retouching photos in a Canadian computer system. From there, it was on to a local TV station to learn the trades and develop expertise using Quantel's "Paintbox." Many late

nights spent on post-production and off-line rendering propelled Gonzalez toward the advertising business, where he rapidly rose to become a recognized and well-respected Art Director. Working extensively in well-known advertising agencies, among them J. Walter Thompson and Fisher Grey, Oscar developed creative and artistic concepts for a wide range of local and international companies with brands in a variety of sectors, including: banking, food, dry goods, cigarettes and alcoholic beverages.

Leaving Venezuela after a 13-month stint owning and operating an independent design and advertising studio, Gonzalez was soon employed with a local advertising agency on the island of Aruba. In this capacity, he introduced the concepts of guerrilla marketing and advertising to this tranquil paradise and developed advertising strategies in the local language, Papiamento, after adding it to his linguistic repertoire. Two years later, it was time for new challenges—creating the in-house image and marketing department for an island holding and serving as its manager.



Oscar Gonzalez is pictured (left) with Rock Star Antonio Bello, his roadie, and a staff member of Café Rembrandts.

Not content to know only one face of the advertising business, Oscar temporarily jumped the ideological divide between creativity and sales upon returning to Venezuela in 2003. Global brands such as Chivas Regal Whiskey, Wyborowa Vodka, and Larios Gin, as well as local bank, BaNorte, were among the accounts he oversaw as Senior Account Executive. However, creativity could not be put on hold for long and reasserted itself some 20 months later in dominant fashion with five 1st place awards and four additional nominations (of a total 13 categories) in the El Arte Premia a el Arte contest sponsored by major Venezuelan newspaper, El Nacional.

Since 2007, Oscar Gonzalez has led the creative department of D351GN5, a self-owned creative and advertising studio. Gonzalez renders a natural approach to brand image handling and leads international projects under the umbrella of D351GN5.com. In touch with global media phenomenon including but not limited to social networking sites, Gonzalez is currently utilizing web technology to develop and implement a variety of personal projects such as an iconographic book, Spanish language e-teaching, and mentoring "new-to-the-trade" graphic designers—all from his "virtual" office in an ever-expanding, frontier-less world thanks to the internet. □

A perfect wedding in Paradise

Lisite & Keith exchange vows at sunset with loved ones



by Angela Munzenhofer

HYATT- A lovely couple, Lisite Carinha & Keith Ruskay of Watertown, Connecticut vowed their love at Aruba's historical Town Hall on May 28, 2009. Officiate Bette Christiaans delivered the civil ceremony and announced them as husband and wife. The lovebirds were introduced through mutual friends in November 2005. They started dating and throughout the years a bond of love took over. "Since she was younger I had my eye on her and now I have

made her my wife" stated Keith.

In August 2007 Lisite had a surprise 40th birthday party for Keith, that day will never be forgotten. Keith took the special moment with loved ones gathered all together and proposed his love to Lisite. The surprise turned out to be a sensation.

Lisite and Keith started planning their wedding with Cayena weddings and E2 Events & Celebrations in Aruba.

On May 29, 2009 Lisite and



Keith were married at San Francisco church with their priest from Connecticut who delivered the sermon. In total, 80 guests were gathered together under one roof to witness the union of marriage. The cocktail hour took place at the enchanted Hyatt Aruba Resort with seafood appetizers. The color theme was green throughout the reception and the Hyatt was transformed into a Cinderella ball under the stars.

During cocktail hour the newlyweds and immediate family took photos of a lifetime with Bella Aruba Photography who made sure to capture the perfect day as it unfolded. Following the photo shoot the bridal party and newlyweds were announced. The evening began with the first dance, parent dance and a special toast to announce the newlyweds with a forever life together. The three tier wedding cake was cut and the bride and



groom started the evening with a night they will never forget. Dinner was served plate style with 3 options which included Grilled Salmon, Surf & Turf or Veal Marsala. The DJ made sure that everyone was on their toes dancing the night away with merengue, salsa and great hits.

The newlyweds took off to enjoy Bonaire and Curacao for a week honeymoon to capture all the beauty of the ABC islands. Aruba Today wishes you an everlasting love□

Photos by Angela Munzenhofer of Bella Aruba Photography



T&T begin against Aruba

Shammi Kowlessar

TRINIDAD and Tobago's men will oppose Aruba at Sports & Physical Education Centre (SPEC) on the St Augustine campus of the University of the West Indies tonight in the final game of the opening day of the NORCECA (North, Central America and the Caribbean) second round qualifying tournament for next year's World Volleyball Championships.

The contest is scheduled for eight o'clock and the hosts will tackle the other team in Group A, the United States Virgin Islands (USVI), at 6 p.m. on Thursday.

Antigua, Curacao and Suriname are the teams in Group B.

When the tournament concludes on Saturday night, the top two men's and the top three teams will advance to the third round of qualifying.

T&T's women, the two-time defending Caribbean

champions, will oppose the USVI and Aruba tomorrow and Thursday night, respectively, in 8 p.m. matches in Group A.

Bermuda, Curacao and Suriname are in Group B. The winners of Group A will square off against the runners-up of Group B and vice versa in Friday's semifinals and the tournament will conclude the following night with the bronze medal matches and finals.

Kelly Billingy, one of the most lethal strikers in the region, will be at the helm of T&T's women's outfit, which also includes explosive left-hander Krystle Esdelle, Carlene Williams, Sinead Jack and former youth skipper Darlene Ramdin.

Veteran and prolific scorer Nolan Tash captains the men team, which also includes Jessel Davis, Saleem Ali and overseas-based Player of the Year Marc Honore.

Cristobal Martiz Hoffiz, first vice-president of the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) and technical delegate for volleyball and beach volleyball in the Caribbean Games, will be present during the week to evaluate this country's state of readiness to host the sport in the inaugural Caribbean Games in July.

Action serves off today at 1 p.m., with Bermuda's women meeting Suriname in Group B, and will be followed by the women of Aruba and USVI doing battle two hours later in Group A.

The night schedule will begin at 6 p.m. with Antigua facing Curacao in Group B, two hours before this country's men take the court. The World Championships will take place late next year with the men's event in Italy and the women's in Japan.

T&T teams:

WOMEN-Kelly Anne Billingy (captain), Krystle Esdelle, Carleen Williams, Channon Thompson, Delana Mitchell, Courtnee Mae Clifford, Darlene Ramdin, Jalicia Ross, Renele Forde, Sinead Jack, Marisha Herbert and Abigail Gloud. Francisco Cruz

(coach); Nicholson Drakes, Darryl Davis (assistant coaches); Sheldon Joseph (physiotherapist); Susan Pierre (manager)

MEN-Nolan Tash (captain), Jessel Davis, Marc Anthony Honore, Mikheil Hoyte, Colin Bernard, Ryan Mahadeo, Dave Raghonanan, Kevin Edwards, Kelvin Alleyne, Saleem Ali, Hollis Charles and Simon Blake. Gideon Dickson (coach); David Camacho (assistant coach) Esseil Seecharan (manager). Arthur Robinson as the trainer for both teams and the medical doctor is Dr Anyl Gopeesingh. □

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Wall Street dives on falling oil, recovery worry



By Ellis Mnyandu

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Stocks tumbled on Wednesday, halting a four-day winning streak, as falling oil prices hit energy shares, while less upbeat economic reports rekindled worries about recovery prospects.

Oil prices slipped more than 3 percent after a surprise build-up in inventories. Shares of energy companies, including Chevron Corp (CVX.N), off 1.6 percent, were top drags, along with other natural resource companies and big manufacturers such as Boeing Co (BA.N), down almost 2 percent.

Investors took a one-two punch from data showing the vast service sector contracted for the eighth straight month in May and from a report

showing employers axed 532,000 private-sector jobs last month.

The data, which fell short of consensus expectations, signaled the revival in consumer and business spending, crucial for profit growth, will take longer than previously thought.

"In the last few days we've had a strong rally, but the fact of the matter is that the economy is still struggling right now," said Giri Cherukuri, head trader at OakBrook Investments LLC, which oversees \$1.3 billion in Lisle, Illinois. "When the economy is slow, earnings aren't going to be so good." The Dow Jones industrial average (.DJI) dropped 65.63 points, or 0.75 percent, to 8,675.24. The Standard &

Poor's 500 Index (.SPX) shed 12.98 points, or 1.37 percent, to 931.76. The Nasdaq Composite Index (.IXIC) declined 10.88 points, or 0.59 percent, to 1,825.92.

Since the stock market's run-up from the 12-year low of early March investors have been eager to get more definitive signs that the recession is abating, but Wednesday's economic reports tempered some of the recent optimism.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said in an appearance before the House Budget Committee he expected to see "some positive growth later this year" but not robust growth. Chevron shares fell 1.6 percent to \$68.26, while Exxon Mobil (XOM.N)

shares declined 1.2 percent to \$72.08. The S&P energy index (.GSPE) fell 3.3 percent.

U.S. front-month crude settled down \$2.43, or 3.5 percent, to \$66.12 a barrel after government data showed a surprise build-up in inventories in the recent week.

Commodities companies were also hit as the dollar strengthened more than 1 percent against a basket of currencies (.DXY), depressing the value of commodities denominated in the U.S. currency.

Aluminum producer Alcoa Inc (AA.N) fell 4.3 percent to \$10.07. The S&P materials index (.GSPM) was off 3.5 percent.

Among big industrial names, plane maker Boeing shares dropped 1.7 percent to \$48.37, while chemical company DuPont Co (DD.N) slid 3.9 percent to \$28.89, making the stock the Dow's top drag for the session.

Technology shares were not spared in the sell-off, with BlackBerry devices maker Research In Motion (RIM.TO)(RIMM.O) off 2.6 percent to \$80.48 on the Nasdaq. The semiconductor index (.SOXX) shed 2.2 percent.

The Institute for Supply Management said its index of the U.S. services sector,

which makes up 80 percent of the economic activity, shrank for the eighth straight month in May.

According to ADP Employer services, U.S. employers cut 532,000 private-sector jobs, slightly worse than the median 520,000 forecast by economists surveyed by Reuters.

The ADP report is often viewed as a harbinger of the government's monthly unemployment report due on Friday.

Economists expect the Labor Department's May non-farm payrolls survey to

show a decline of 520,000 jobs, according to a Reuters survey. The unemployment rate is forecast to jump to 9.2 percent from 8.9 percent in April.

Since the 12-year low of March 9, the S&P 500 has risen nearly 40 percent.

Volume was moderate on the New York Stock Exchange, where about 1.32 billion shares changed hands, below last year's estimated daily average of 1.49 billion. On the Nasdaq, about 2.31 billion shares were traded, above last year's daily average of 2.28 billion.

Decliners outnumbered decliners on the NYSE by a ratio of about 8 to 3, while on the Nasdaq, about eight stocks fell for every five that fell. □

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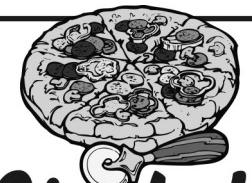
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Dollar rebounds against major currencies

By ERIN CONROY,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — The dollar rebounded Wednesday as investors were discouraged by a private-sector report on unemployment and U.S. data on the services industry and factory orders, while Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke warned that record-high budget deficits could endanger the economy's long-term health.

The euro and pound had surged against the dollar in recent weeks as investors were optimistic about the economy, trading their positions in the traditional safe-haven currency for higher-yielding assets.

The 16-nation euro dropped to \$1.4134 from \$1.4318 late Tuesday, while the British pound sank to \$1.6276 from \$1.6572. The dollar edged up to 95.85 Japanese yen from 95.66 yen.

The ADP National Employment Report, which has become more closely watched in recent months, said Wednesday that employment decreased by 532,000 in May versus a revised decline of 545,000 jobs in April. The report was a precursor to Friday's crucial jobs report from the Labor Department. Unemployment has been one of Wall Street's biggest worries about the economy.

"The euro has had a huge run-up in the past few weeks, so the ADP number will naturally trigger a return like this," said Joseph Trevisani, chief market analyst at FXSolutions.

Meanwhile, the Institute for Supply Management said Wednesday its services index registered 44 in May, up slightly from 43.7 in April. It was the highest reading since October. Service industries such as retailers, financial services, transportation and health care make up about 70 percent of U.S. economic activity.

But the ISM figure marked its eighth straight monthly decline, and it fell slightly below economists' expectations. Any reading below 50 indicates the services sector is shrinking. The last

time the index was at 50 or higher was in September. Separately, the government reported that orders to U.S. factories rose 0.7 percent in April, the second increase in three months.

But the Commerce Department's report fell short of analysts' expectations. And the government also marked down the March figure to a 1.9 percent drop, from the 0.9 percent decline previously

reported.

In testimony to Congress Wednesday, Bernanke focused instead on the government's growing debt load, saying that failing to ease the deficit could undermine efforts to revitalize the economy.

Investors fear that rising government debt, which requires more borrowing and bond sales, could trigger rising long-term interest rates and possibly inflation

when the economy recovers. Inflation would eat away at the dollar's value, and foreign investors may no longer be willing to buy up all the U.S. government's debt.

In Wednesday trading, investors broke the stock market's four-day rally that was bolstered this week by better-than-anticipated data on manufacturing, consumer spending and construction spending. A stock market rally

is negative for the U.S. dollar, as it drives investors to riskier assets.

"Market sentiment continues to trump economic fundamentals in foreign exchange markets, with expectations swinging from irrational pessimism six months ago to irrational exuberance today," wrote senior currency strategist Michael Woolfolk in a note to investors Wednesday. □

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Bipartisan Objections to a Bad Bailouts

John Nichols

The Nation -- Thirty-six members of the U.S. House -- Democrats and Republicans, liberals and conservatives -- recently wrote to President Obama asking him to stop the White House Auto Task Force from taking actions that are harmful to American autoworkers, auto dealers and the states and communities impacted by plant and dealership closings. Congressman Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio, organized the effort with Ohio Republican Steven LaTourette in response to the administration's approach to the Chrysler bankruptcy and bailout. But it now takes on new significance as the administration's approach to the General Motors bankruptcy and bailout -- a much larger endeavor -- parallels the bad strategies of the Chrysler deal.

Here is the text of the Chrysler letter, which was sent late last month: The Honorable Barack Obama The President The White House Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to express our concern over events that have occurred and will soon occur in the U.S. Automobile Industry. We are grateful to you and your Administration for the leadership demonstrated. However, decisions being made by the Auto Task Force and in the bankruptcy proceedings in New York are more than troubling.

In your announcement on Chrysler on April 30, 2009 you indicated that: "It will not disrupt the lives of the people who work at Chrysler or live in communities that depend on it."

While we know that was your intention, events following your announcement have made that impossible.

Specifically,

1.) Members of the UAW voted on April 28-29 to ratify a contract agreeing to significant concessions. Sadly, approximately 9000 auto workers at 8 Chrysler facilities went to vote on that contract without knowing that their jobs would be terminated. For example, 88% of the members of Local 122 in Twinsburg, Ohio voted on April 29th for the agreement, celebrated your announcement on April 30th, and discovered for the first time that their plant would be shuttered on May 1st;

2.) As part of the bankruptcy proceedings, those 9000 workers have been given to only May 26th to determine if they want to accept a buy out package terminating all rights of their employment;

3.) On May 4th in those bankruptcy proceedings, Robert Manzo of Capstone, Chrysler's consultant, testified that the Auto Task Force, after first suggesting that Chrysler not be permitted to spend any funds on advertising, begrudgingly agreed to permit them to spend half of their advertising budget;

4.) In those same proceedings, 789 Chrysler dealerships have been slated for closure. □

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6/3

Climate of Hate, World of Double Standards

Michelle Malkin

Creators Syndicate — When a right-wing Christian vigilante kills, millions of fingers pull the trigger. When a left-wing Muslim vigilante kills, he kills alone. These are the instantly ossifying narratives in the Sunday shooting death of late-term abortion provider George Tiller of Kansas versus the Monday shootings of two Arkansas military recruiters.

Tiller's suspected murderer, Scott Roeder, is white, Christian, anti-government and anti-abortion. The gunman in the military recruitment center attack, Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad, is black, a Muslim convert, anti-military and anti-American.

Both crimes are despicable, cowardly acts of domestic terrorism. But the disparate treatment of the two brutal cases by both the White House and the media is striking.

President Obama issued a statement condemning "heinous acts of violence" within hours of Tiller's death.

The Justice Department issued its own statement and sent federal marshals to protect abortion clinics. News anchors and headline writers abandoned all qualms about labeling the gunman a terrorist. An almost gleeful excess of mainstream commentary poured forth on the climate of hate and fear created by conservative talk radio, blogs and Fox News in reporting Tiller's activities.

By contrast, Obama was silent about the military recruiter attacks that left 24-year-old Pvt. William Long dead and 18-year-old Pvt. Quinton Ezeagwula gravely wounded. On Tuesday afternoon — more than 24 hours after the attack on the military recruitment center in Little Rock, Ark. — Obama held a press conference to announce his pick for Army secretary. It would have been exactly the right moment to express condolences for the families of the targeted Army recruiters and to condemn heinous acts of violence against our troops.

But Obama said nothing. The Justice Department was mum. And so were the legions of finger-pointing pundits happily convicting the pro-life movement and every right-leaning writer on the planet of contributing to the murder of Tiller. Obama's omission, it should be noted, comes just a few weeks after he failed to mention the Bronx jihadi plot to bomb synagogues and a National Guard airbase during his speech on homeland security.

Why the silence? Politically and religiously motivated violence, it seems, is only worth lamenting when it demonizes opponents. Which also helps explain why the phrase "lone shooter" is ubiquitous in media coverage of jihadi shooters gone wild — think convicted "Jeep Jihadist" Mohammed Taheri-Azar at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill or Israel-bashing gunman Naveed Haq, who targeted a Seattle Jewish charity or Los Angeles International Airport shooter Hesham Hedayet, who opened fire at the El Al Israeli airline ticket counter — but not in cases involving rare acts of anti-abortion violence.

Even Jeffrey Goldberg of the left-leaning Atlantic magazine noticed the double standards. He called attention to a National Public Radio report on the military recruiter attack that failed to mention the religion and anti-military animus of the suspect. Wrote Goldberg: "Why not tell people what is actually happening in the world? We saw this a couple of weeks ago, when the press only gingerly acknowledged that the malevolent though incompetent suspects in the synagogue bombing-conspiracy case in New York were converts to Islam. How is the public served by this kind of silence? The extremist Christian beliefs of George Tiller's alleged murderer are certainly relevant to that case, and no one in my profession is hesitant to discuss them. Why the hesitancy to talk about the motivations of the man who allegedly killed Pvt. William Long?" □

Miley Cyrus: You've Got Males!

Marc Malkin
Los Angeles (E! Online)
— Uh-oh.

Sounds like Justin Gaston may have something to fret about when girlfriend Miley Cyrus takes off this summer to go film *The Last Song*. We already know Miley thinks her new onscreen leading man Liam Hemsworth is a "hot boy," but now one of his former costars tells us he's more than just a looker.

Melissa George stars opposite the young Aussie actor in the upcoming thriller *The Triangle*. She just may be his No. 1 fan...

"Honestly, he is a superstar in the making," George told us last night in Beverly Hills at Salvatore Ferragamo's benefit for the victims of the L'Aquila earthquake.

And she didn't stop there.

"Yes, [Justin] should be worried," George said. "I certainly think he has some competition."

Why?

"Not only is Liam wonderful to look at—he's a gorgeous guy—but his spirit and his soul



are just incredible," George said. "I've never worked with a nicer guy in my life. And I'm not just saying that. He is the most amazing person." Last night's fete, hosted by Debi Mazar and Adrian Grenier, launched an online auction of celebrity handbags. Proceeds benefit GlobalGiving's Italy Earthquake Relief and Recovery Fund.

Mazar collected the handbags herself. "I picked up the phone and called Madonna, Marisa Tomei, Gwyneth Paltrow, Demi Moore and others," Mazar said. "I said, 'Hey, do me a favor. Give me one your personal bags as a favor to me to help raise money,' and they were like, 'No problem.' Nice to have friends with deep pocketbooks.

FILE - In this Feb. 6, 2009 file photo, Joe Jonas of The Jonas Brothers arrives at the MusiCares Person of the Year Tribute honoring Neil Diamond in Los Angeles.

(AP Photo/Chris Pizzello, file)

Joe Jonas boogies to Beyoncé to promote new album

LOS ANGELES — Watch out, Beyoncé. Joe Jonas is stealing your dance moves.

In the latest "Single Ladies" spoof, the middle Jonas brother tries to crib the diva's dance style in a new online video.

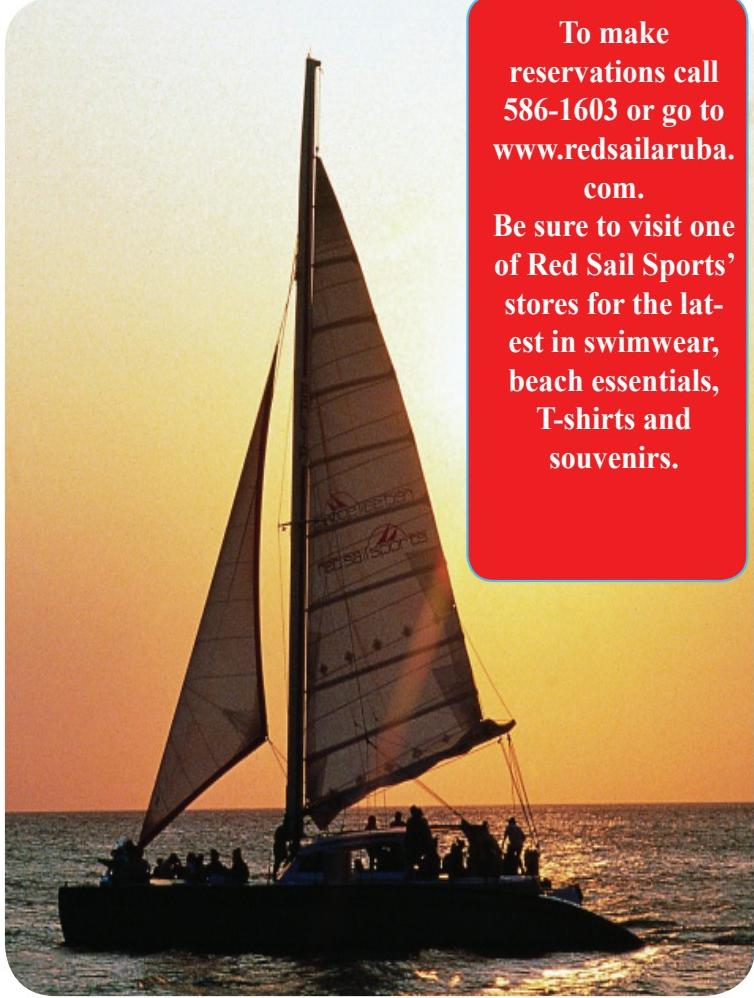
Wearing a black catsuit and matching high heels, Jonas meagerly attempts a few moves while half lip-synching to the hit song. His brothers and band mates, Nick and Kevin, are shown at the beginning of the video prodding him to perform, saying, □

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On Top Of The News

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Thursday, June 4, 2009



President Barack Obama shakes hands after receiving a gift from Saudi King Abdullah at the start of their bilateral meeting at the King's Farm in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Wednesday, June 3, 2009.

Associated Press

Obama visits Saudi king on eve of key speech

JENNIFER LOVEN

AP White House Correspondent

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Opening a mission to write a new chapter on Islam and the West, President Barack Obama consulted Wednesday with the Saudi king "in the place where Islam began," prelude to a high-stakes speech in Egypt meant to ease long-held Muslim grievances against the United States. The son of a Kenyan Muslim who lived part of his childhood in Muslim-majority Indonesia, Obama planned what aides called a "truth-telling" address on Thursday, aimed directly at the world's 1.5 billion Muslims. Many harbor animosity toward the U.S. over its staunch support for Israel, its terrorist-fighting policies and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Many Americans, likewise, formed negative perceptions of the Muslim world after the 9/11 attacks.

In advance, Saudi King Abdullah staged a lavish welcome after Obama's all-night flight to Riyadh.

"I thought it was very important to come to the place where Islam began and to seek his majesty's counsel," Obama said. The president and the king talked in the splendor of Abdullah's sprawling retreat, a lush patch of searing desert.

The king, who was hosting Obama for an

overnight stay, called his guest "a distinguished man who deserves to be in this position."

Birthplace of Islam, Saudi Arabia is still considered guardian of the faith as home to the holy cities of Medina and Mecca. The Sunni Arab powerhouse also sits on the world's largest oil reserves, buys billions in U.S. military equipment and has cooperated extensively with the U.S. on anti-terrorist operations.

As such, Obama's goals of opening what speechwriter Ben Rhodes called "a new chapter between the United States and the Muslim world" could hardly proceed without Saudi support.

Obama also came asking for specific requests of help from Abdullah on a range of related issues, such as peace between the long-feuding Israelis and Palestinians, Iran's suspected efforts to build a nuclear bomb, rising Taliban extremism in Pakistan and a destination for some 100 Yemeni detainees now in the U.S. at the Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, prison camp.

Denis McDonough, a deputy national security adviser to Obama, could not immediately say whether the president's requests were successful after meetings between the two leaders and their delegations that stretched over nearly four hours.

Continued on Next Page

Poll: U.S. divided over torture, closing Guantanamo

LIZ SIDOTI

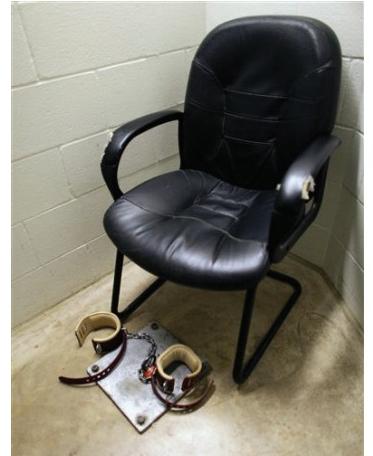
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Just over half of Americans say torture is at least sometimes justified to thwart terrorist attacks and the country is evenly divided over whether to close the Guantanamo Bay prison, according to a poll that underscores President Barack Obama's challenges in selling his terror-fighting policies.

Even so, the latest Associated Press-GfK survey also shows that Obama enjoys broad confidence that he can effectively handle terrorism in an era when many people say they still fear becoming a victim and when a swath of the public shares the views of Obama's Republican predecessor, George W. Bush. At the same time, Obama hasn't lost support — he has a strong 64 percent job-approval rating — and nearly half of Americans still think the country's headed in the right direction.

Continued on Page B3

Associated Press



In this photo taken Tuesday, May 12, 2009 and reviewed by the U.S. military, a chair and shackles mounted to the floor sit inside a room used for interrogations and interviews of Guantanamo detainees, on a cell block at Camp 5 maximum-security detention facility, inside Guantanamo Bay U.S. Naval Base, Cuba. President Barack Obama will restart military tribunals for a small number of Guantanamo detainees, reviving a Bush-era trial system he once assailed as flawed, but with new legal protections for terror suspects, U.S. officials said.



Thomas Shannon, Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, left, and El Salvador's Foreign Minister Hugo Martinez attends the 39th Organization of American States, OAS, General Assembly in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, Wednesday, June 3, 2009. The OAS announced Wednesday it has revoked a 1962 measure suspending communist Cuba, reversing a landmark of the Cold War in the hemisphere.

Associated Press

OAS votes to readmit Cuba after 47 years

Read Page B9



Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., right, accompanied by Senate Minority Leader Sen. Mitch McConnell of Ky., left, and Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., speaks to reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday June 2, 2009.

Associated Press

OBAMA - SAUDI KING *Continued from Page B1*

Abdullah showered Obama with compliments in the welcoming ceremonies and presented him with the King Abdul Aziz Order of Merit, a large medallion with a thick gold chain that is the kingdom's highest honor. "Those are only given to the very few friends of the king, and you are certainly one of those," Abdullah said.

"Goodness gracious," Obama said as an aide approached with the striking necklace. "That's something there." He said: "I consider the king's friendship a great blessing, and I am very appreciative that he would bestow this honor on me during this visit." Obama had pledged during his presidential campaign to deliver a major address from an Islamic capital within 100 days of becoming president.

He did so with a speech to the parliament in Turkey, a secular but overwhelmingly Muslim nation. The White House says his speech in Cairo, a center of Islamic thought and culture, is the one he had in mind in making that promise, and set high expectations for it. Al-Qaida countered Obama's outreach. Osama bin Laden released an audio tape accusing Obama of inflaming hatred toward the U.S. by ordering Pakistan to crack down on militants in Swat Valley and block Islamic law there. His deputy, Ayman al-Zawahri, said "farcical visits or elegant words" in Cairo can't disguise "bloody messages" the U.S. sends to Muslims with its prosecution of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

The message from bin Laden, the terrorist mastermind-in-hiding who was born in Saudi Arabia and directed the 2001 attacks that involved 15 hijackers from the desert monarchy, was broadcast by Al-Jazeera Television almost exactly as Obama's plane

touched down in Riyadh. "Americans have seen these types of threats before," White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said in response. "This is much more an effort to try to upstage." Aides spared no effort to ensure Obama's speech Thursday reaches a vast Muslim audience. A special State Department Web site lets people everywhere register to receive and reply to speech highlights; Obama's remarks were to be played live on the White House Web site and translated into 13 languages; and excerpts were being distributed not only on the White House's dedicated YouTube page but also on special-event links on social networking sites such as MySpace, Twitter and Facebook, complete with live chatting opportunities. In his speech, Obama does not intend to make new policy — but to frame it differently. By stressing both U.S. respect for Muslims and the need for all sides, including Washington, to make changes, the president

hopes to start setting relations between the U.S. and the Muslim world down a more constructive path even while some disagreements persist. "There's been a breach, an undeniable breach, between America and the Islamic world," senior adviser David Axelrod said.

"That breach has been years in the making. It's not going to be reversed with one speech — it's not going to be reversed, perhaps, in one administration. But the president is a strong believer in open, honest dialogue."

The centerpiece of the speech is the Israeli-Palestinian dispute, a driving force behind Muslim anger worldwide. Obama was prepared to discuss in some detail what needs to be done to resolve it, though by urging all sides to meet obligations already agreed upon, Rhodes said. That includes calling for a full halt to all growth in Jewish settlements in the Palestinian West Bank, the subject of a striking rift between the U.S. and Israel in recent days. □



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U.S. POLL**Continued from Page B1**

That is despite bipartisan rebukes of the new president's ordered closure of the detention center in Cuba and former Vice President Dick Cheney's sustained criticism of Obama's approach to terrorism.

The issues emerged in the poll as intensely partisan, with viewpoints largely split along ideological lines.

"To uphold the integrity of our Constitution for ourselves and for the world, it is important" that the U.S. close the Guantanamo prison, said Diana Jones, 68, a Democrat, who has faith in Obama's terror-fighting abilities. Counter Steve Marsh, 50, a Republican who does not think Obama is strong enough on terrorism: "I'd just rather see them there than see them here on our soil."

Such issues have dominated Obama's agenda in recent weeks as he has wrestled with the fallout of Bush-era policies and the legal questions surrounding them, while trying to fend off criticism from friends and foes alike. Obama ordered the Bush-created prison closed by early 2010 and emphatically stated "we don't torture" just days after taking office.

Since then, the Democratic-controlled Senate demanded more details of Obama's plan as lawmakers voted 90-6 to refuse to give him \$80 million he requested to shutter the prison, which has held hundreds of detainees for years without charges or trials. Republicans also spoke vigorously against the notion that dangerous terrorism suspects could end up confined on U.S. soil. And foreign allies balked at accepting the transfer of prisoners from the Navy-run facility when the United States did not appear willing to do the same.

All that prompted Obama to deliver a speech in which he insisted that U.S. maximum-security prisons can safely house the prisoners and argued anew that closing Guantanamo could make the U.S. safer because the facility would no longer motivate enemies overseas.

Obama risks further defeat of

his policies in Congress and disapproval of them abroad if he can't get the public on board. Thus, he's making a tough sell.

The AP-GfK poll shows most Americans have faith in him, with 70 percent saying they are confident of Obama's ability to address terrorism. Nearly all Democrats, two-thirds of independents and just over a third of Republicans express confidence.

Nearly eight years after terrorists struck on U.S. soil, more than a third of Americans say they worry about the chance that they or their relatives might fall victim to a terrorist attack — essentially unchanged from 35 percent five years ago.

The poll also shows potential areas of political vulnerability for Obama, indicating he must walk a fine line as he seeks to both protect the country and turn the page on Bush's national security policies.

Some 52 percent of people say torture can be at least sometimes justified to obtain information about terrorist activities from suspects, an increase from 38 percent in 2005 when the AP last asked the question. More than two-thirds of Republicans say torture can be justified compared with just over a third of Democrats.

"Sometimes you got to do what you go to do," said Jean Kraft, 69, a Democrat. Still, she added: "I truly don't think we should" torture.

Others were more pointed.

"I don't agree with torture,



In this photo taken Wednesday, May 13, 2009 and reviewed by the U.S. military, the sun rises over the Guantanamo detention facility at dawn, at the Guantanamo Bay U.S. Naval Base, Cuba.

Associated Press

period," said Karl Holt, 65, a Democrat.

On Obama's plan to close Guantanamo, 47 percent approve, while 47 percent disapprove. Most Republicans disapprove, while most Democrats approve. Independents are evenly divided.

Leann Wills, 35, a Republican is among those who oppose closure, saying: "You know the old saying, if it's not broke, don't fix it. So why should we close if it's been working for us all of these years?"

But Michelle Knutson, 40, a Democrat, argues that the indefinite detention of prisoners at Guantanamo undercuts U.S. ideals, saying: "This is not a police state, it's democracy."

Despite the president's

safety assurances, more than half of Americans say they would be worried about the chance of terrorism suspects escaping from U.S. high-security prisons. Yet again, more Republicans express concern than Democrats. Still, the figures indicate that the Republican-fueled fear may be resonating.

Leading the charge by Republicans against Obama's policies is Cheney. The poll shows nearly a quarter had a favorable opinion of the former vice president, a measure that's risen steadily from a low of 13 percent in one 2007 poll.

The poll also found one bright spot for the out-of-power Republicans: More people identified themselves as Republican than did last month, 23 percent to 18 percent.

The AP-GfK Poll was conducted May 28 to June 1 by GfK Roper Public Affairs & Media. It involved landline and cell phone interviews with 1,000 adults nationwide and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points. □

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Former first lady Nancy Reagan and House Minority Leader John Boehner of Ohio, bow their heads in prayer in the Capitol Rotunda in Washington, Wednesday, June 3, 2009, during a ceremony to unveil a bronze statue of President Ronald Reagan.

Associated Press

Reagan statue unveiled in Capitol building

WASHINGTON (AP) — An overjoyed and teary-eyed Nancy Reagan watched with delight as a bronze statue of her beloved late husband Ronald Reagan was unveiled in the U.S. Capitol building.

A blue cloth cover was pulled from the seven-foot 2.1 meter statue of the 40th U.S. president Wednesday as Mrs. Reagan, 87, and a crowd packed with Reagan era-policymakers, looked on in the Capitol's Rotunda. The statue cast Reagan flashing his legendary grin, the expression that transformed his face whenever he was ready to deliver the punchline of a joke. Mrs. Reagan, seated next to her husband's friend, former Treasury Secretary James A. Baker III, said that it was nice to return to the Rotunda for a happy occasion. Ronald Reagan, who was president from 1981 to 1989, lay in state there after his death at 93 in 2004. □

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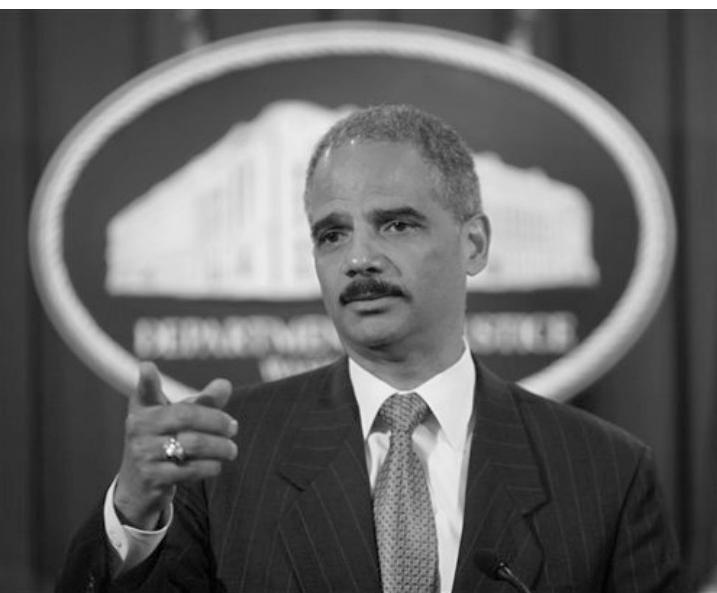
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Obama reverses Bush U.S. immigration lawyer rule



Attorney General Eric Holder gestures during a news conference at the Justice Department in Washington, Wednesday, May 20, 2009.

Associated Press

DEVLIN BARRETT

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)

— A rule limiting access to lawyers for immigrants facing deportation from the U.S. has been tossed out by the Obama administration.

The rule was issued in the waning days of the Bush administration, angering

immigrants rights groups that immediately sought to persuade the incoming Democratic administration to discard it.

On Wednesday, Attorney General Eric Holder did just that, saying he is vacating the order issued by predecessor Michael Mukasey which said that immigrants facing

deportation do not have an automatic right to an effective lawyer.

Holder said he is also instructing the Justice Department to begin working on a new rule.

Charles Kuck, president of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, called the move "the beginning of the restoration of due process in the immigration system."

Kuck said that Holder's decision "recognizes we can't treat immigrants any differently than ourselves if we expect to receive the same benefits the Constitution provides."

Mukasey had issued a 33-page decision in January saying the Constitution does not entitle someone facing deportation to have a case reopened based upon shoddy work by a lawyer. Mukasey also said, however, that Justice Department officials have the discretion to reopen such cases if they choose.

Immigrant rights groups had criticized the Mukasey decision, saying such immigrants subject to deportation are particularly susceptible to sham lawyers claiming to do legal work on their behalf.

Holder said in a statement that Mukasey's decision had not allowed for enough public comment on the issue.

"The integrity of immigration proceedings depends in part on the ability to assert claims of ineffective assistance of counsel," the attorney general said. "It is important that the American people have the opportunity to participate in formulating our procedures in this area." At the same time, Holder agreed with Mukasey's findings in the three specific immigration cases that led to the decision.

Jon Feere, an analyst at the Center for Immigration Studies, which seeks more restrictions on immigration, said the cancellation of the Bush policy "may be used as a means to unjustly delay deportation." □

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Gay marriage bill signed into law in New Hampshire

NORMA LOVE

Associated Press Writer

CONCORD, New Hampshire (AP) — New Hampshire became the sixth U.S. state to legalize gay marriage Wednesday after Gov. John Lynch signed the measure into law, even though he says he personally opposes the practice.

After rallies outside the Statehouse by both opponents and backers of the law in the morning, the last of three bills in the package went to the Senate, which approved it 14-10 Wednesday afternoon.

Cheers from the gallery greeted the key vote in the House of Representatives, which passed it 198-176. Surrounded by gay marriage supporters, Lynch signed the bill about an hour later. "Today, we are standing up for the liberties of same-sex couples by making clear that they will receive the same rights, responsibilities — and respect — under New Hampshire law," Lynch said.

Lynch, a Democrat, had promised a veto if the law didn't clearly spell out that churches and religious groups would not be forced to officiate at gay marriages

or provide other services. Lawmakers made the changes.

Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, Vermont and Iowa already allow gay marriage, though opponents hope to overturn Maine's law with a public vote.

California briefly allowed gay marriage before a public vote banned it; a court ruling allowed couples who were already married to remain so. Federal law does not recognize same-sex marriages.

The New Hampshire law will take effect Jan. 1, exactly two years after the state began recognizing civil unions.

The Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson, elected in New Hampshire in 2003 as the first openly gay bishop in the Episcopal Church, was among those celebrating the new law.

"It's about being recognized as whole people and whole citizens," Robinson said.

"There are a lot of people standing here who when we grew up could not have imagined this," he said.

"You can't imagine something that is simply impossible. It's happened, in our lifetimes."



Supporters watch as Gov. John Lynch, D-N.H., signs gay marriage into law at the State house in Concord, N.H., Wednesday, June 3, 2009.

Associated Press

Opponents, mainly Republicans, objected on grounds including that the bill went through several versions.

"It is no surprise that the Legislature finally passed the last piece to the gay marriage bill today. After all, when you take 12 votes on five iterations of the same issue, you're bound to get it passed sooner or later," said Kevin Smith, executive director of gay marriage opponent Cornerstone Policy Research.

The revised bill added a sentence specifying that all religious organizations,

associations or societies have exclusive control over their religious doctrines, policies, teachings and beliefs on marriage.

It also clarified that church-related organizations that serve charitable or educational purposes are exempt from having to provide insurance and other benefits to same-sex spouses of employees.

The House rejected the language Lynch suggested two weeks ago by two votes. Wednesday's vote was on a revised bill negotiated with the Senate.

Supporters had considered

Wednesday their last chance to pass a bill this year.

The law will establish civil and religious marriage licenses and allow each party to the marriage to be identified as bride, groom or spouse.

Same-sex couples already in civil unions will automatically be assumed to have a "civil marriage."

Churches will be able to decide whether to conduct religious marriages for same-sex couples. Civil marriages would be available to both heterosexual and same-sex couples. □

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Israel not going to bomb Iran: Foreign Minister



Visiting Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman speaks to the media in Moscow, Wednesday, June 3, 2009. Israel does not intend to bomb Iran, Lieberman said Wednesday at the end of a three-day visit to Russia.

Associated Press

STEVE GUTTERMAN

Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — Israel does not intend to bomb Iran, Israel's foreign minister said

Wednesday, stepping back from suggestions it might attack a major foe it says is bent on developing nuclear weapons.

Speaking at the end of a three-day visit to Russia, Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman said Tehran's nuclear program is the world's problem, not just Israel's, and that its Arab neighbors should be even more concerned about the prospect of a nuclear-armed Iran than Israel is. He said other nations should not expect Israel to solve this problem for them. "We do not intend to bomb Iran, and nobody will solve their problems with our hands," Lieberman told reporters. "We don't need that. Israel is a strong country, we can protect ourselves."

"But the world should understand that the Iran's entrance into the nuclear club would prompt a whole arms race, a crazy race of

unconventional weaponry across the Mideast — that is a threat to the entire world order, a challenge to the whole international community," he said, in Russian. "So we do not want a global problem to be solved with our hands."

The remarks from Lieberman — a leading hawk in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's hardline government — sounded strikingly softer than previous statements suggesting Israel might take military action against Iran. Netanyahu has repeatedly said Iran must not be allowed to develop nuclear weapons, and has refused to rule out the use of force.

After his recent meeting in Washington with President Barack Obama, Netanyahu said he and Obama agreed Iran must not obtain nuclear weapons, and attempts to solve the problem through negotiations could not be

unlimited in time. Iran, whose president has expressed hatred of Israel, maintains its nuclear programs are only designed to provide electricity. But Israel, the United States and other nations fear the effort is aimed at acquiring nuclear weapons. Lieberman suggested Iran's closer neighbors should be more concerned about a nuclear-armed Iran than Israel.

"It's clearly not an Israeli problem — it's the problem of the whole Middle East, and those who are most concerned about the Iranian nuclear problem are the Arab countries," Lieberman said.

"I think that those Iran's nuclear program frightens most of all are the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and all the others," he said. "Iran is a factor of instability in the Middle East, without any connection with Israel."

Lieberman also criticized Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad for denying the Holocaust. Ahmadinejad, who has repeatedly questioned the extent of the Holocaust and called for Israel to be "wiped from the map," said Wednesday that the Holocaust was a "deception."

It was unclear if Lieberman had been informed of Wednesday's remark.

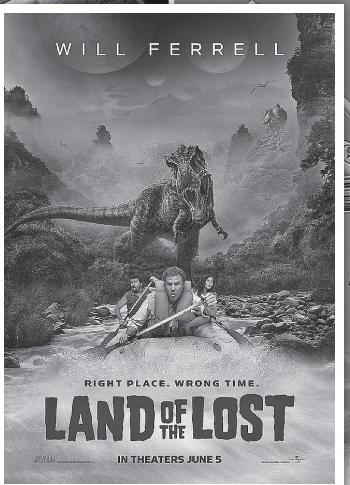
But he said the president of Iran sponsors an annual conference in Tehran on Holocaust denial and said, "this is unacceptable, and we must fight against all these phenomena."

Ahmadinejad told a gathering of international scholars in Tehran on Wednesday that Israel uses the "big deception of the Holocaust" to sway allies in the West.

In April, he accused the West of using the Holocaust as a pretext for aggression against Palestinians. □



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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEW						
<input type="checkbox"/> PG-13	LAND OF THE LOST	daily: 4:20	matinee: 12:00	6:30	8:45	
				2:10	late show: 11:00	
<input type="checkbox"/> PG-13	TERMINATOR SALVATION	daily: 6:05	matinee: 1:10	8:30	late show: 11:10	
				3:40		
<input type="checkbox"/> R	THE LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT	daily: 5:20	matinee: 1:00	7:30	9:40	
				3:10	late show: 11:50	
<input type="checkbox"/> PG-13	ANGELS & DEMONS	daily: 5:30	matinee: 11:50	8:15	late show: 11:10	
				2:35		
<input type="checkbox"/> PG	NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2	daily: 7:45	matinee:	9:50	late show: 12:00	
<input type="checkbox"/> PG-13	DRAG ME TO HELL	daily: 5:50	matinee: 1:30	8:00	10:10	
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<input type="checkbox"/> PG	UP 3D	daily: 5:15	matinee: 12:45	3:00	late show:	
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				3:40	late show: 12:15	
<input type="checkbox"/> PG-13	17 AGAIN	daily: 4:40	matinee: 12:10	2:25	late show:	

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Bin Laden threatens Americans in new tape

MAAMOUN YOUSSEF
Associated Press Writer

CAIRO (AP) — Osama bin Laden threatened Americans in a new audio tape Wednesday, saying President Barack Obama inflamed hatred toward the U.S. by ordering Pakistan to crack down on militants in Swat Valley and block Islamic law there.

Bin Laden claimed U.S. pressure led to a campaign of “killing, fighting, bombing and destruction” that prompted the exodus of a million Muslims from Swat Valley in northwest Pakistan.

The message was broadcast for the first time on pan-Arab Al-Jazeera Television around the same time Obama touched down in Saudi Arabia at the start of a Mideast visit. He is trying repair relations with the Muslim world frayed under the previous Bush administration.

“Elderly people, children and women fled their homes and lived in tents as refugees after they have lived in dignity in their homes,” bin Laden said. “Let the American people be ready to reap what the White House leaders have sown,” he added.

“Obama and his administration have sown new seeds to increase hatred and revenge on America,” bin Laden said. “The number of these seeds is equal to the number of displaced people from Swat Valley.”

Pakistan’s military offensive to expel the Taliban from Swat Valley was launched in late April after the militants abandoned a peace deal with the government that gave them control of the region.

The offensive, strongly backed by Washington,

is seen as a test of Pakistan’s resolve against militants in the northwestern border region near Afghanistan. Pakistanis tired of militant attacks in the country that have killed hundreds of civilians have also supported the campaign. But the fighting has uprooted some 3 million people.

Bin Laden focused entirely on Pakistan, claiming President Asif Ali Zardari was paid by the White House to start the crackdown.

But Richard Holbrooke, U.S. special envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan, promptly dismissed suggestions that anyone but al-Qaida and the Taliban are responsible for the refugee crisis in Pakistan, saying such an idea was “ludicrous.” “This entire problem began with al-Qaida and its associates and everybody in the world knows that. It’s silly indeed to respond to such a ludicrous charge,” Holbrooke said during a joint news conference with Zardari.

Al-Jazeera aired excerpts of the tape and did not say how it was obtained. The authenticity of the tape could not be immediately verified.

Bin Laden, whose last message was released in mid-March, has been sparing in his criticism of Obama in the past. In January, he said only that the U.S. president had received a “heavy inheritance” from his predecessor.

However, his deputy, Ayman al-Zawahri has repeatedly condemned Obama, even using racial slurs. Bin Laden’s message followed just hours after al-Zawahri criticized Obama’s upcoming speech on Thursday to the Islamic world in Cairo, saying it will not change the “bloody messages” the U.S. military is sending Muslims in American wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. □



This April 1998 file photo shows Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan. Osama bin Laden threatened Americans in a new audio tape broadcast Wednesday, June 3, 2009, saying President Barack Obama inflamed hatred toward the U.S. by ordering Pakistan to crack down on militants in Swat Valley and block Islamic law in the area.

Associated Press

Heavy seas, winds hamper search for Flight 447 debris

ALAN CLENDENNING

Associated Press Writers

FERNANDO DE NORONHA, Brazil (AP) — Military planes and ships located more debris from an Air France jet on Wednesday, but high seas and heavy winds were slowing the recovery effort and delaying the arrival of crucial deep-water submersibles.

Search vessels from several nations pushed toward the floating debris, including a 23-foot chunk of plane and a 12-mile-long oil slick that Brazilian pilots spotted from the air. Rescuers have still found no signs of life from the plane that was carrying 228 people from Rio de Janeiro to Paris, Air Force spokesman Col. Jorge Amaral said.

Flight 447 disappeared minutes after flying into an extremely dangerous band of storms Sunday night, but what exactly caused its electrical systems and cabin pressure to fail remains a mystery. The "black box" cockpit recorders could be miles below the surface of the Atlantic Ocean.

If they can't be recovered, investigators will have to focus on maintenance records and a burst of messages sent



In this photo released by Brazil's Defense Ministry, an aerial view of an oil slick on the sea near Brazil, Wednesday, June 3, 2009.

by the plane just before it disappeared. Officials have released some details of these messages, but a more complete chronology was published Wednesday by Brazil's O Estado de S. Paulo newspaper, citing an unidentified Air France source. Air France and Brazilian military officials refused to confirm the report. But if accurate, it suggests

that Flight 447 may have broken up thousands of feet in the air as it passed through a violent storm, experts told The Associated Press.

The report said the pilot sent a manual signal at 11 p.m. local time saying he was flying through an area of "CBs" — black, electrically charged cumulo-nimbus clouds that come with violent winds and lightning. Satellite data has shown that towering thunderheads were sending 100 mph winds straight into the jet's flight path at that time.

Ten minutes later, the plane sent a burst of automatic messages, indicating the autopilot had disengaged, the "fly-by-wire" computer system had been switched to alternative power, and controls needed to keep the plane stable had been damaged. An alarm also sounded, indicating the deterioration of flight systems, according to the report.

Three minutes after that, more automatic messages indicated the failure of two other fundamental systems pilots use to monitor air speed, altitude and direction. Then, a cascade of other electrical failures in systems that control the main flight computer and wing spoilers.

The report repeats a detail previously released by Brazil's Air Force: that the last message came at 11:14 pm, indicating loss of

Associated Press

air pressure and electrical failure. The newspaper said this could mean sudden depressurization, or that the plane was already plunging into the ocean.

Air France spokesman Nicolas Petteau referring questions about the report to the French accident investigation agency, BEA, whose spokesman Martine Del Bono said the agency won't comment.

Brazil's Defense Minister Nelson Jobim also declined to comment on the report, saying "that investigation is being done by France, Brazil's only responsibility is to find and pick up the pieces."

France's defense minister and the Pentagon have said there were no signs that terrorism was involved, and Jobim said "that possibility hasn't even been considered."

The fierce thunderstorms, turbulence, lightning or a catastrophic combination of events could have broken apart the plane, aviation experts have said.

And while the messages reported by the newspaper don't indicate why the aircraft went down, they strongly suggest it broke apart in the air, said Bill Voss, president and CEO of the Flight Safety Foundation in Alexandria, Va.

"These are telling us the story of the crash. They are not explaining what happened to cause the crash," Voss said. "This is the documentation of

the seconds when control was lost and the aircraft started to break up in air."

Voss stressed that the messages alone were not enough to understand why the Air France jet went down, noting that the black boxes will have "far more parameters" that could determine the cause.

The new debris was discovered about 55 miles south of where searchers a day earlier found an airplane seat, a fuel slick, an orange life vest and pieces of white debris.

The original debris was found roughly 400 miles northeast of the Fernando de Noronha islands off Brazil's northern coast, an area where the ocean floor drops as low as 22,950 feet below sea level.

Brazil was leading the search, while France took charge of the crash investigation, working with Air France, Airbus and meteorologists to determine what happened.

And while four boats and a tanker ship were en route to the scene, they were slowed by high seas.

"We have four divers on the way, but the first of them will not get to the scene until midday Thursday," a Brazilian navy spokeswoman said Wednesday, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Brazil lacks the equipment needed to reach the ocean floor, she added, so if the black boxes are at the bottom of the sea, their recovery will have to wait for the arrival early next week of a French research ship with remotely controlled submersibles that can explore as deeply as 19,600 feet.

The sturdy black boxes — voice and data recorders — are built to give off signals for at least 30 days, even underwater, and could keep their contents indefinitely.

But the head of France's accident investigation agency, Paul-Louis Arslanian, said in Paris that he is "not optimistic" about recovering the recorders — and that investigators should be prepared to continue the probe without them.

"It is not only deep, it is also mountainous," he said. "We might find ourselves blocked at some point by the lack of material elements." □

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OAS votes to readmit Cuba after 47 years

NESTOR IKEDA

Associated Press Writer

SANPEDROSULA, Honduras

(AP) — The Organization of American States voted by acclamation on Wednesday to revoke the 1962 measure suspending communist Cuba, overturning a landmark of the Cold War in the hemisphere. “The Cold War has ended this day in San Pedro Sula,” said Honduran President Manuel Zelaya immediately following the announcement. “We begin a new era of fraternity and tolerance.” The action doesn’t mean Cuba will return to the 34-member body that helps coordinate policies and mediates disputes throughout the Americas.

Cuban officials have repeatedly insisted they have no interest in returning to an organization they consider a tool of the United States. And if Cuba changes its mind, the agreement calls for “a process of dialogue” in line with OAS “practices, proposals and principles” — a veiled allusion to agreements on human rights and democracy. “This is a moment of rejoicing for all of Latin America,” Ecuador’s Foreign Minister Fander Falconi told reporters after the session.

The decision was taken by consensus, meaning the United States accepted it, though Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton had lobbied personally for requiring Cuba to make democratic reforms and improve respect for human

rights.

“The historic action taken today eliminates a distraction from the past and allows us to focus on the realities of today,” State Department Deputy Spokesman Robert Wood said in Washington.

He said it would let officials “continue with the president’s efforts to support the desire of the Cuban people to freely determine Cuba’s future consistent with our core principles and those of the Americas.”

Wood also portrayed the resolution’s reference to OAS principles as a victory for U.S. diplomacy, noting that most countries had favored automatically readmitting Cuba. “The United States worked tirelessly,” he said, to ensure “that the return of Cuba to participation in the OAS will be done consistent with the principles and purposes of the democracy and human rights.”

Only hours earlier, State Department spokesman told reporters than failure to reach an agreement was “a clear sign of how the president’s approach to relations in the Americas is paying dividends.”

He said the main support from Cuba’s return came from “countries like Nicaragua and Venezuela; they’re the ones who have been trapped in the past” while the United States was celebrating “that the OAS is, in fact, a community of democracies.”

Clinton herself left the meeting

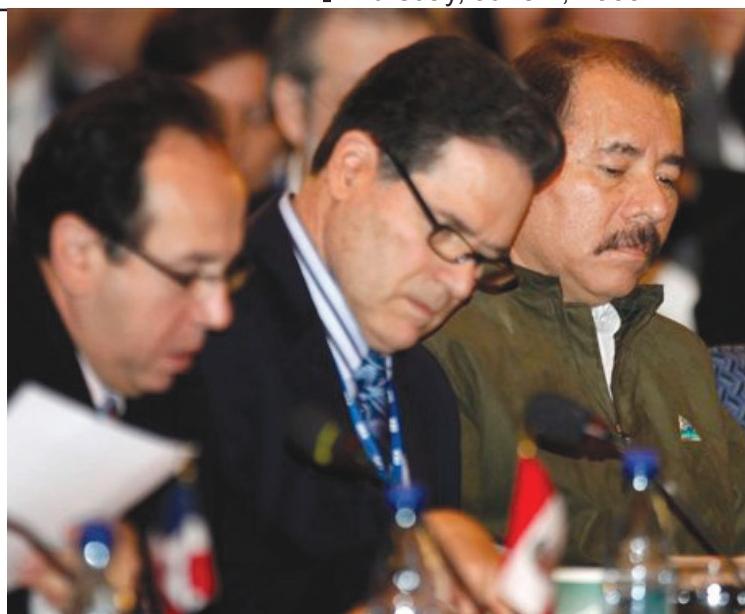
before the final vote. The meetings dragged on so long Tuesday night that she did not even have time to deliver a prepared speech of 1,500 words before flying out of Honduras to join U.S. President Barack Obama in Egypt. The U.S. won Cuba’s suspension from the hemispheric body in January 1962. It was just nine months after Fidel Castro first publicly described Cuba’s system as socialist and after a disastrous U.S.-backed exile invasion of the country flopped at the Bay of Pigs. The OAS found that Cuba’s “adherence ... to Marxism-Leninism is incompatible with the inter-American system.”

But in recent years, with the Cold War fading and left-of-center governments spreading in the Americas, Cuba’s isolation melted away. Every country in the hemisphere except for the United States has re-established relations with Cuba and the U.S. embargo of Cuba is deeply unpopular throughout the region.

Membership in the OAS gives a country a voice in hemispheric agreements on major issues. The OAS has often tried to mediate solutions to political conflicts and it has offshoots that coordinate health policies and protect human rights.

Cuba’s government, has repeatedly said it has no interest in returning to the 34-member organization, which it calls a tool of the United States.

Former Cuban leader



Fidel Castro wrote in state newspapers on Wednesday that OAS should not exist and historically has “opened the doors to the Trojan horse” — the U.S. — to wreak havoc in Latin America.

The Obama administration has hoped its recent overtures to the Cuban government would overcome widespread resentment in the Americas over Washington’s long history of isolating Havana. U.S. officials have lifted restrictions on money transfers and travel to the island by Americans with family there and are resuming long-stalled immigration and postal service talks. Argentine

Foreign Minister Jorge Taiana credited Obama for making the decision possible.

“This resolution should be understood as a renewed spirit of dialogue,” Taiana said. “We have finished with an injustice with discrimination and everything that came from the past, from the Cold War.”

In her prepared statement for Tuesday’s closed session, Clinton acknowledged that “in the past, the U.S. has sometimes taken a counterproductive approach to domestic affairs within the hemisphere that created mistrust and suspicion,” according to a copy given to reporters. □

Metal workers clash with police in northwest Spain

MADRID (AP) — Hundreds of striking metal workers have clashed with riot police in a northwestern Spanish port city.

An AP photographer saw workers use slingshots to hurl large steel bolts, or throw them with their hands, and light burning barricades to keep police from breaking up a demonstration in the city of Vigo. Police fired tear gas and rubber pellets at the workers, many of whom

wore handkerchiefs to cover their mouths.

Unions representing some 30,000 metal workers in Vigo and the surrounding province of Pontevedra have been negotiating a new contract with management for weeks.

But talks have deadlocked over wage increases and management withdraw from them on Tuesday. Another strike is scheduled for Thursday. □



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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

Serena Williams loses in French Open quarterfinal

By STEVEN WINE

AP Sports Writer

PARIS — One shot by Serena Williams sent Svetlana Kuznetsova to the court in a messy spill that left her covered with clay. The Russian was down but not out. Showing newfound resilience, she squandered a big lead in the second set Wednesday but ended Williams' 18-match Grand Slam winning streak in the French Open quarterfinals, 7-6 (3), 5-7, 7-5.

Williams, seeded second, was seeking her third successive major title and the 11th of her career.

Roger Federer moved one step closer to the only Grand Slam title he has yet to win, beating Frenchman Gael Monfils during a quarterfinal match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Wednesday June 3, 2009.



Switzerland's Roger Federer jubilates after defeating France's Gael Monfils during a quarterfinal match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Wednesday June 3, 2009.

Associated Press

Patriots' safety Harrison announces retirement

JIMMY GOLEN

AP Sports Writer

F O X B O R O U G H , Massachusetts (AP)

— Two-time Pro Bowl safety Rodney Harrison announced his retirement on Wednesday, saying he is through hitting quarterbacks after a 15-year career for the New England Patriots and San Diego Chargers.

"I'm done," he said in a conference call with reporters. "And I'm very much at peace with that. Football has been good to me; I worked hard and I played hard."

The 36-year-old Harrison holds the NFL record for defensive backs with 30 1/2 sacks; he also has 34 interceptions, making him the only player to have at least 30 of each. But the

numbers only tell part of the story about a player who had a reputation as one of the hardest hitters in the league — and one of the dirtiest, too.

"People have called me a dirty player. I'm a very passionate player," Harrison said. "I also understand that this is not volleyball. This is a very violent, physical game, and if you hit someone in the mouth, they're not going to be your friend. That's what the game of football is."

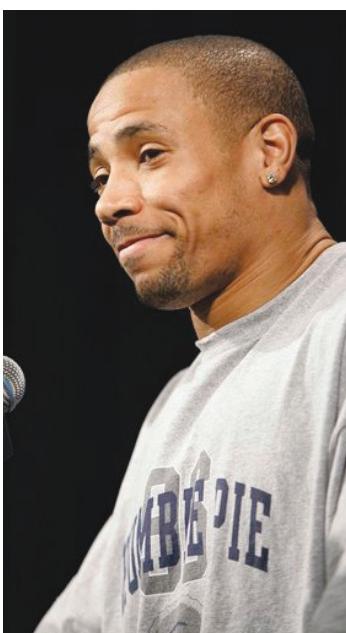
Harrison's frank speaking can be expected to serve him well in his broadcast career. Asked about his next step, he referred to an NBC call scheduled for later Wednesday at which the network has said it will announce its "talent" for this

season's NFL broadcasts. Harrison worked for NBC in its Super Bowl coverage last year.

Harrison won two Super Bowls with the Patriots but missed the last 10 games last season after tearing a muscle in his right thigh. Injuries, along with a four-game suspension in 2007 for using a banned substance, limited him to 31 games over the last four seasons.

"I always wanted to prove to everyone that I could come back, but I really didn't have that fire anymore," he said.

Although he was unapologetic about his multiple fines — more than \$200,000 over his career — and a one-game suspension in 2002 for a helmet-to-helmet hit on



Jerry Rice, Harrison did call the drug suspension "a huge mistake." He admitted obtaining human growth hormone, and has said it was to speed his recovery from an injury.

"I had so much pride about trying to do things right," he said. "I made such a huge mistake in that situation and disappointed so many people, including myself. When I made that mistake, I wanted other guys and kids to learn from that." □

consecutive time Federer has reached the semifinals in a major tournament.

Federer is 5-0 against his opponent Friday, No. 5-seeded Juan Martin del Potro. The 6-foot-6 Argentine advanced to his first Grand Slam semifinal by beating No. 16 Tommy Robredo 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

Williams was on the verge of reaching the women's final four after mounting a comeback and taking a 3-1 lead in the final set. She blamed nerves for her defeat. "In the third set I had an opportunity and I got really tight, and I pretty much gave it to her," Williams said. "It was like, 'Here, do you want to go to the semis? Because I don't.' She was like, 'OK.'"

The No. 7-seeded Kuznetsova faced a set point serving at 5-6 in the first set but erased it with a slam and took the lead. After Kuznetsova's tumble in the second set, Williams erased a 5-3 deficit and rallied three points from defeat to even the match.

"It was very confusing," Kuznetsova said. "Yes, I missed my moments, but she also was playing good."

Kuznetsova mounted the final surge and overcame her history of shaky play when trying to close out big matches. Instead it was Williams who succumbed to the tension.

Why the nerves?

"I don't know," Williams said. "I haven't gotten tight since 2007 in Australia. I maybe I put some expectations on myself that I didn't put on myself initially."

Williams won her only French Open title in 2002.

Kuznetsova, the 2004 U.S. Open champion, seeks her second major title. Her opponent Thursday will be Samantha Stosur of Australia, who reached her first major semifinal by beating Sorana Cirstea of Romania 6-1, 6-3.

Continued on Page B12

Stanley Cup

Penguins beat Red Wings, trail NHL finals 2-1

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Pittsburgh Penguins defeated the Detroit Red Wings 4-2 on Tuesday to extend the Stanley Cup finals to the weekend. The Penguins won at home after losing twice in Detroit against the defending champions just as they did last year in the NHL finals. Game 4, which could have been an elimination game for Pittsburgh, will be on Thursday. Either Detroit can take a stranglehold 3-1 lead or the Penguins can make the finals a best-of-three series.

Sergei Gonchar's power-play goal midway through the third period pumped up his discouraged Penguins teammates after Detroit pressed for the go-ahead score.

Gonchar's slap shot from center point off Evgeni Malkin's pass sailed past Red Wings goalie Chris Osgood as he was screened by Bill Guerin and Sidney Crosby.

The Penguins prevented the Red Wings from taking a 3-0 series lead that would have allowed them to clinch their fifth Stanley Cup since 1997 as early as Thursday. "The power play was an unbelievable job by a handful of guys out there, keeping the play alive and giving Gonch a chance," Penguins coach Dan Bylsma said.

Malkin assisted on the first three Penguins goals, giving him 33 points in 20 games, the most in the playoffs since Joe Sakic's 34 for Stanley Cup champion Colorado in 1996.

Gonchar, and first-period scores by Max Talbot and Kris Letang, gave the Penguins hope again, just as they did by winning Game 3 by 3-2 on a pair of Crosby goals in last year's finals. The Red Wings went on to

win that one in six games. "The urgency has to be there, but at the same time, you have to be smart about how you are playing," Gonchar said. "They're a good club. If you give them a chance, they're going to capitalize on it."

Talbot added an empty-net score in the final minute. The way they played for much of Game 3, it looked like the Red Wings were trying to bury the Penguins for good.

They outshot the Penguins 26-11 following a furious first two periods that featured five-minute periods of continuous up-and-down play, numerous scoring chances at both ends — and, the way the Red Wings kept pressuring, plenty of tentativeness by towel-waving Penguins fans nervous they might see the Penguins' season effectively end.

"We talked after the second, we didn't have a very good second period. We needed to calm down and get back to our game," Bylsma said. Instead, Gonchar was right. One of the few Penguins players at the rink on Monday's day off, he constantly repeated that the Penguins did enough right during their twin 3-1 losses in Detroit to encourage them. Guerin also downplayed the fact 31 of the previous 32 teams to win the first two games at home went on to win the series, saying that meant nothing in these finals.

In the series' first wide-open period, the Penguins finally began getting production from their secondary scorers as fourth-line center Talbot and Letang scored, but Detroit's Henrik Zetterberg and Johan Franzen made it 2-2 after the first period. The Penguins were hoping to open up the play more

at home before a sellout crowd decked out in white shirts, and they did that. But in creating more end-to-end play, Pittsburgh also made mistakes that led to goals.

Goalie Marc-Andre Fleury made up for many of them, stopping 27 shots and allowing no soft goals of the first two games. Crosby, shut down the first two games and limited to a single assist in three games, left his man to go behind the net shortly after Talbot put a backhander past Chris Osgood. That allowed a wide-open Zetterberg to



Detroit Red Wings goalie Chris Osgood reacts after giving up a goal as Pittsburgh Penguins' Sidney Crosby celebrates during the third period of Game 3 of the NHL hockey Stanley Cup Final finals, in Pittsburgh on Tuesday, June 2, 2009.

Associated Press

Colorado Avalanche fire head coach Tony Granato

DENVER (AP) — The Colorado Avalanche have fired coach Tony Granato in a sweeping move that also resulted in the firings of five others in the organization. Granato was dismissed Wednesday.

The Avalanche also fired assistant coaches Jacques Cloutier and Dave Barr, goaltending coach Jeff Hackett, assistant to the general manager Michel Goulet and video coordinator

P.J. DeLuca.

It was the second major offseason move made by the team after their worst finish since moving to town in 1995. Colorado also let go of general manager Francois Giguere in April.

The team is expected to make an announcement on a new management structure later Wednesday.

Granato's job appeared to be in jeopardy when the team courted Hall of Fame



This May 22, 2008 file photo shows Tony Granato listening to a question during a news conference in Denver, where he was named head coach of the Colorado Avalanche hockey club.

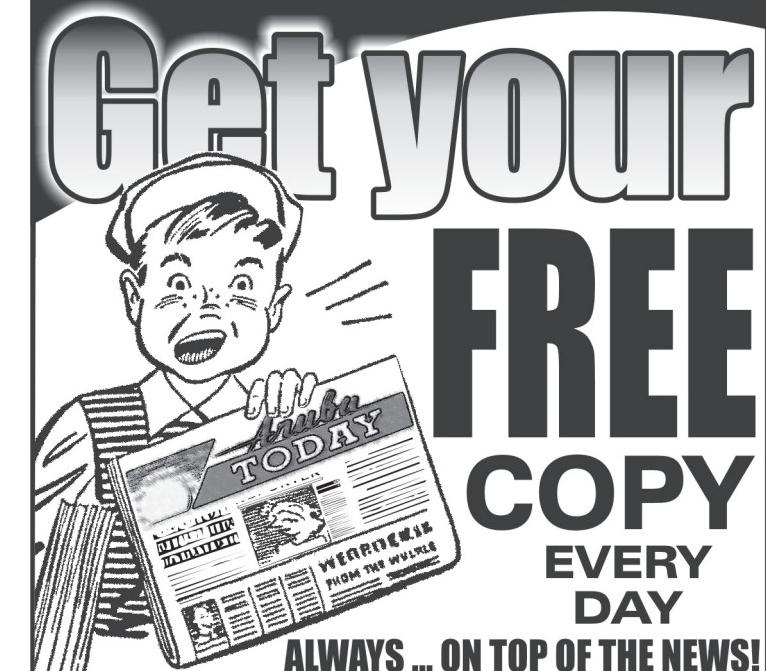
Associated Press

goalie Patrick Roy to be their coach. Roy turned them down. □

convert from the right circle at 6:19 for a goal created by Ville Leino driving to the net.

About five minutes later, Brooks Orpik's interference penalty on Zetterberg led to Franzen's 12th goal, off a risky cross-ice pass by — yes, him again — Zetterberg as Detroit converted for the 11th time in 34 opportunities on road power plays.

Zetterberg played another strong game, helping limit Crosby's chances despite not being matched as regularly against him as Pittsburgh had the final line change. □



Braves release 305-game winner Tom Glavine



In this Aug. 2, 2002, file photo, Atlanta Braves starting pitcher Tom Glavine throws to a St. Louis Cardinals batter in the first inning of a baseball game in Atlanta. The Braves released 305-game winner Glavine on Wednesday, June 3, 2009.

Associated Press

PAUL NEWBERRY

AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — In a stunning move, the Atlanta Braves released 305-game winner Tom Glavine on

Wednesday, just when it seemed he was ready to return to Major League Baseball. The 43-year-old Glavine, who was coming back from shoulder and elbow surgery,

threw six scoreless innings for Class-A Rome on Tuesday and proclaimed himself ready to pitch in the majors again. Instead, the Braves cut him, another move that will draw the ire of Atlanta fans after the team failed to re-sign John Smoltz during the offseason. General manager Frank Wren said the decision had nothing to do with a \$1 million bonus that Glavine would have received for being placed on the roster. Instead, the team felt it had a better chance to win with a younger pitcher in the rotation.

"This was not a business decision," Wren said. "This was a performance decision." Top prospect Tommy Hanson will be called up on Saturday to start against Milwaukee. Glavine, meanwhile, apparently hopes to keep pitching. "We gave (Glavine)

the option, 'If you want to retire, you can retire as a Brave,'" Wren said. "He asked us to release him." Wren said Glavine's impressive performance in the minors had no impact on the team's assessment of his ability to pitch in the big leagues. Glavine was the winningest active pitcher in MLB with a record of 305-203. While he and his agent, Gregg Clifton, did not immediately return phone messages, the fact that Glavine asked to be released clearly indicates that he still wants to pitch after missing most of last season with the first major injury of his career. "I think he was taken aback a little bit," Wren conceded. Glavine pitched his first 16 seasons for the Braves, then signed with the New York Mets before the 2003 season after negotiations with Atlanta

turned bitter. The left-hander pitched five seasons for the Mets, then reconciled with the Braves. Glavine returned to Atlanta with a one-year deal in 2008, intent on closing his career with his original team. He pitched only 13 games before his season ended with an elbow injury that required surgery. He also had some minor work done on his shoulder, and negotiations on a return to the Braves dragged on beyond the start of spring training.

Glavine finally signed a \$3.5 million deal that included a \$1 million bonus when he was placed on the active roster and \$1.25 million each for 30 and 90 days on the active roster.

"The comeback was not working," Wren said. "Our evaluation was he would not be successful." □

SERENA

Continued from Page B10

January, when Kuznetsova served for the victory at 5-3 in the second set before Williams rallied.

In that case, Williams went on to the title, but this time Kuznetsova recovered from her second-set lapse. She failed to convert two match points in the 10th game of the last set, but smacked three service winners to hold for 6-5. A weary Williams committed three unforced errors serving in the final game, including a backhand pushed wide on match point.

The seesaw struggle was this close: Midway through the third set, each player had won 100 points.

"Honestly, I think I lost because of me, and not because of anything she did," Williams said.

Not entirely. High-risk tennis paid off for Kuznetsova, who whacked winners into both corners and sometimes chose angles that surprised Williams. Kuznetsova showed lots of variety, too — when she hit a crosscourt lob, Williams staggered helplessly as she watched the ball land beyond her reach.

"We both fight hard, and it was very interesting match to watch," Kuznetsova said. □



USA's Serena Williams falls as she plays Russia's Svetlana Kuznetsova during their quarterfinal match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Wednesday June 3, 2009.

Associated Press

Stosur, 25, has never won a tour title.

Kuznetsova was serving one point from a 5-2 lead in the second set when she turned her right ankle in pursuit of a shot and fell on her back. She rose caked with clay — it was even in her hair and on her forehead.

She was unhurt and play quickly resumed, but it took a while for Kuznetsova to regain her footing. Later she could smile about the spill. "See the sand?" she said at her postmatch news conference. "I still have clay in my hair." Against Monfils, Federer took the partisan crowd out of the match with his most impressive performance of the tournament. He saved a set

point in the tiebreaker when Monfils hit a backhand wide, swept the next two points to win the set and pulled away by winning 18 of his final 19 service points.

Federer's path to a record-tying 14th Grand Slam title became easier when four-time defending champion Rafael Nadal was upset Sunday. With Nadal's absence comes higher expectations.

"I felt some pressure before this match," Federer said. "I was very nervous, because I thought it would be very difficult."

But Williams-Kuznetsova lasted longer — nearly 3 hours. After two sets, the match mirrored the quarterfinals at the Australian Open in

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OEA deroga resolución para permitir reingreso Cuba

SAN PEDRO SULA, Honduras (Reuters) - La Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA) derogó el miércoles una añeja resolución que excluyó hace casi medio siglo a Cuba del organismo, abriendo el camino para su reingreso a pesar del rechazo de la propia isla.

Aunque la resolución aprobada de forma unánime -incluido el voto de su histórico enemigo Estados Unidos- no establece condiciones explícitas a Cuba para volver al organismo, asegura que su potencial reincorporación dependerá de un proceso de diálogo y negociaciones.

Ese diálogo incluirá democracia y derechos humanos, los eternos temas de discusión entre La Habana y Washington y por los que Estados Unidos mantiene un embargo a la isla desde 1962, el mismo año en que fue expulsada de la OEA.

Estados Unidos, que presionó por la expulsión, argumentó entonces que el Gobierno comunista de Fidel Castro no era compatible con los principios democráticos de la OEA, pese a que para ese momento contaba entre sus miembros con países

gobernados por dictaduras de derecha.

La decisión de la OEA ocurre en medio de un acercamiento entre ambos países, históricos enemigos ideológicos, y poco después de que el presidente Barack Obama decidiera eliminar restricciones sobre viajes y envío de remesas a Cuba.

Hace unos meses, los países de la OEA comenzaron a plantear que la vieja resolución era arcaica y debía anularse para ayudar al incipiente diálogo entre Washington y La Habana.

"Eliminamos un impedimento histórico para la participación de Cuba en la OEA, pero también establecimos un proceso de vinculación con Cuba", dijo en la asamblea plenaria el estadounidense Thomas Shannon, secretario de Estado adjunto para Asuntos Hemisféricos.

Pero la secretaria de Estado, Hillary Clinton, quien participó el martes de la reunión de cancilleres de la OEA en San Pedro Sula, Honduras, fue clara en un comunicado sobre que Cuba podrá regresar al organismo "si la OEA decide que su participación cumple los propósitos y principios de



La secretaria de Estado de Estados Unidos, Hillary Clinton, es vista en San Pedro Sula, Honduras, 2 jun 2009. Los cancilleres de la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA) no lograron el martes una posición común para permitir el regreso de la reticente Cuba al organismo, de donde fue expulsada hace casi medio siglo por presiones de Estados Unidos. REUTERS/Edgard Garrido

la organización, incluyendo democracia y derechos humanos".

CUBA ENSEÑA LOS DIENTES

Cuba ha dicho que no le interesa regresar a la OEA, un organismo que considera debería desaparecer y al que Fidel Castro acusó el miércoles de ser "cómplice" de crímenes cometidos contra la isla.

La aprobación en Honduras fue sorpresiva porque hasta el martes por la noche los cancilleres del continente no se habían puesto de acuerdo en torno del texto, mientras Estados Unidos buscaba incluir condiciones sobre democracia y derechos humanos para votar por la anulación de la vieja resolución.

Esas referencias y el hecho de

que en el documento también se establezca la necesidad de un nuevo diálogo si Cuba quiere volver a la OEA, dejaron contento a Washington.

Países aliados de Cuba como Venezuela, Bolivia, Nicaragua y Honduras, también se mostraron complacidos con la resolución y dijeron que fue posible por la llegada de Obama a la Casa Blanca. □

El Salvador investiga si hubo intento magnicida contra Chávez

SAN SALVADOR (AP) - El gobierno salvadoreño afirmó el miércoles que investigará si existió un plan para asesinar al presidente Hugo Chávez, como lo denuncian las autoridades venezolanas que acusaron de urdir el presunto complot al anti castrista Luis Posadas Carriles.

"No dudamos que nuestras autoridades, que tomaron posesión el primero de junio, van a investigar la denuncia", declaró el miércoles en rueda de prensa el ministro de Gobernación, Humberto Centeno.

Chávez canceló a última hora su asistencia a la toma de posesión del presidente salvadoreño Mauricio Funes después de que los servicios de inteligencia habrían descubierto un plan de asesinato en su contra.

Centeno dijo que no tiene "detalles" del caso, pero señaló que no le parecía "extraño, y lo digo a título personal, que el presidente Chávez y su inteligencia venezolana hayan detectado lo que él ha denunciado".

El ministro de Relaciones Interiores de Venezuela,

Tareck El Aissami, declaró a la prensa en Caracas que "Luis Posada Carriles, un terrorista conocido por el mundo, protegido por autoridades extranjeras, (era) quien direccionaba estos eventos para asesinar al presidente Hugo Chávez".

"Por fortuna hemos evitado... hemos frustrado un nuevo intento de magnicidio con esta acción", indicó el ministro tras reconocer que el plan descubierto tenía una "alta planificación, una planificación casi que perfecta".

Chávez había planeado asistir a la toma de posesión de Funes el lunes en El Salvador, pero dijo que canceló su viaje por un presunto complot y acusó a organismos de inteligencia de Estados Unidos y el anticastrista Luis Posada Carriles, de estar detrás del plan. Agregó que los servicios de inteligencia venezolanos tenían "información muy precisa" sobre que se planeaba lanzar uno o varios cohetes al avión de Cubana de Aviación en el que tenía programado viajar a San Salvador.

"Centroamérica es un espacio bien complejo, operan

organizaciones criminales diversas, entre esas el narcotráfico y organizaciones criminales dedicadas a truncar procesos, asesinar dirigentes", manifestó El Aissami.

Centeno dijo que "desgraciadamente El Salvador fue una base de (Luis) Posada Carriles", un anticastrista detenido con documentos salvadoreños en la Cumbre Iberoamericana de finales del 2000 en Panamá, en donde fue acusado de planear un atentado contra el entonces presidente de Cuba, Fidel Castro.

El anticastrista permanece prófugo de la justicia venezolana desde el año 1985 cuando se fugó de una cárcel, en circunstancias no esclarecidas.

Fue arrestado por cargos de fraude de documentos migratorios en Miami en el 2005 y permaneció en una cárcel de las autoridades de inmigración en El Paso, Texas, en donde un juez recomendó que fuera deportado pero advirtió que si era enviado a Cuba o Venezuela el detenido podía ser sometido a torturas. El anticastrista salió libre bajo fianza y vive con su familia en Florida desde el 2007. □



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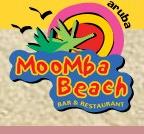
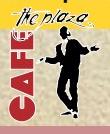
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